

6 JANUARY 1996

(IR 65p) 50p

Vickers director our man in Saudi

Embarrassment for Tories after exile of dissident

RUSSELL HOTTEN and COLIN BROWN

hardisang

Andrew Green, the newly appointed British ambassador to Saudi Arabia, is a non-executive director at Vickers, the defence company hidding for a huge tank contract with Rivadh. it emerged yesterday.

The revelation will embarrass the Government in the wake of the expulsion this week of the leading Saudi dissident Mo-hammed al Masari. Vickers admitted on Thursday that it had warned the Government in recent months of the threat to trade with Saudi Arabia posed by Mr Masari, the principal London-based opponent of the Saudi royal family.

Meanwhile, the chairman of he was ready to investigate caims that the Caribbean island of Dominica - a former British colony - will receive increased



British aid in return for offering exile to Mr Masari.

Mr Green, a veteran Foreign Office Middle East expert, has been a non-executive director of a Vickers subsidiary - Vickers Defence Systems - since April 1994. Vickers, the indus-trial giant that owns Rolls-Royce cars, is in line for a huge Saudi order for up to 200 Challenger II tanks.

The company emphasised vesterday that Mr Green had no executive role on the main board of the company. He had joined Vickers unpaid as part of a Government scheme to introduce civil servants to busi-

Mr Green, under-secretary of state for Middle East policy and a former Ambassador to Damascus, would be standing down

IN BRIEF

Bashful British women

British women's opportunities

in international business could

be limited because they are

The Japanese Prime Minister.

Tomüchi Muravama, resigned

Windy across the UK, with

Page 2

Japanese PM quits

Today's weather

rain moving north.

Suddenly.

from the company when he took up his post in Riyadh later this year. Vickers said last night. A Vickers spokesman said Mr Green was offered a position in the company to gain commercial experience. His input is valuable but he takes no part in the day-to-day running of any of our businesses. There

is no conflict of interest." As the row over the dissident's expulsion from Britain intensified, Robert Sheldon, the Labour chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, criticised the Government for bowing to Saudi pressure and gave a clear signal that his committee would

be ready to step in. "It is quite likely that if a member of the committee asked me to investigate. I will a powerful public watchdog have to go into this further. he committee said yesterday that said. "It is not just the money side. It is the fact that we can be pressured by another country putting the squeeze on us We have never had it before. Once you start doing that, you

are up for grabs. Alan Williams, a Labour member of the committee, said earlier that he was calling for an inquiry. He has written to the Comptroller and Auditor Gencral asking him to investigate whether money voted by Parliament for foreign aid was heing spent properly. Aid to Do-minica will be increased this year from £500,000 to £2m - a 300 per cent increase.

Mr Masari. leader of the Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights (CDLR). and a long-standing thorn in the side of the Saudi royal family. has been given 10 days to lodge an appeal or face expulsion from Britain to Dominica. The tiny island's decision to offer the sident an alternative place of exile made it legally possible for Britain to take this step.

The Home Secretary, Michael Howard, confirmed yesterday that commercial considerations played a part in the deportation. "If there are two ways in which we can com-ply with our international obligations (on human rights), one of which damages our national interest and the prospects of jobs in Britain, and one way which doesn't, we are perfectly entitled to chose the way which doesn't damage our in-terests," he told the *Independent* during a visit to New Delhi.

STEVE BOGGAN

A woman pronounced dead

and placed in a bodybag was

found to be alive by mortuary

workers as they prepared to put

Daphne Banks, 61, was last

night recovering in the hospital at which she arrived as a

"corpse" on New Year's Day.

She had been taken to the

mortuary by undertakers, but

when her bodybag was un-zipped, astonished staff saw

that she was still breathing.

A GP had pronounced Mrs

Banks, of Stonely. Cam-

bridgeshire, dead at her farm-

house home and had called

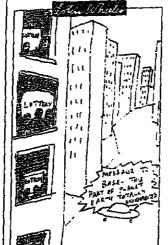
police because he believed a

her into a refrigerator.



Sad farewell: Firemen grieve at the funeral yesterday of colleague Michael Mee who died trying to save a drowning girl Photograph: John Giles/PA

ottery mania unites the nation



REBECCA FOWLER

The National Lottery jackpot swelled to £40m yesterday with tonight's draw proving the greatest national collective experience since the end of adult in the land, 40 million people, has bought a ticket.

across the country were inundated as queues started before dawn yesterday. Ticket sales are 70 per cent higher than usual and are expected to reach £115m compared to the weekh average of £65m.

Camelot, the lottery operator, advised people to buy tickets as early as possible today.

"The response has been tremendous. It has been a frenzy with nearly every eligible adult playing," said a Camelot spokeswoman, "It's a national phenomenon. This level of jackpot is something that will not happen again for a long time."

an estimated £73m by tonight, The 19,000 lottery outlets and Camelot estimates there will be a total of two million winners of prizes at all levels. Statistically the jackpot is likely to be won by between six and nine people. Many were playing in syndicates this week in an attempt to maximise their

chances of a win. The queue at Lombard London, which has one of the highest turnovers of tickets from City syndicates, began before the doors opened yesterday. One customer made a single purchase of £2,000.

"We have a 100 per cent The overall prize pool will be tery fever with the queue going out of the door onto the street. We've tried to persuade people to go to another office but the word in the City is that our terminal is lucky." said Jean Barnett, the manager. Even tourists were seizing the

chance to become millionaires. A number of French and Belgium travellers had specifically come to buy tickets, while Street Post Office in the City of others were caught up in the

mood. Janne Kaipainen, from Finland, bought a single ticket. "Everyone here is talking about it, and it's so much bigger than the Finnish lottery," he said. "If I won I'd buy bouses everywhere and chase the summer around e world because in Finland it's always winter."

There was concern, however, over whether tickets being sold to Irish lottery players would be recognised. Some retailers in the republic were buying blocks of tickets in Northern Ireland. A Camelot spokeswoman said if there was any evidence a ticket had been sold on it would not pay out the prize.

Ticket crazy, page 3 Leading article, page 16

She'll

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COUPON INSIDE

A sexual athlete hangs up her studs

How Britain became a nation of bad neighbours

The joys of wearing fur on the quiet

Conran makes a new beauty in Vienna

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Mental patient freed to kill

JASON BENNETTO and NICHOLAS TIMMINS

Independent inquiries were ordered vesterday into how two former mental hospital patients were left without supervision allowing them to kill three peonie and seriously injure four others in separate assaults - amid fresh condemnation of policy towards the mentally-ill.

In one case, a paranoid schizophrenic absconded from home leave and went on to shoot one man dead and fatally stab a woman in a series of random attacks during six days of violence.

Wayne Hutchinson, 21, was convicted of manslaughter at the Old Bailey on the grounds of diminished responsibility afcharges of murder. He was also serious mental illness. Mistakes operative," Mrs Collins said. Bowing to pressure, page 9

would be necessary. Neither the

police nor the undertakers who

took Mrs Banks to the Hinch-

ingbrooke Hospital in Hunt-

ingdon noticed that she was

breathing. Once mortuary

workers discovered she was

alive, they alerted doctors and

Mrs Banks was rushed to the

Margaret Markey, a spokes-

woman for the hospital, said

there were no plans for an in-

quiry because no breaches of

procedure had taken place

there. However, the Cambridge

and Huntingdon Health Com-

mission said it had not ruled out

intensive care unit.

an investigation.

found guilty of wounding three people with intent and at-where people are allowed to tempted murder. Hutchinson was given leave from his mental hospital despite having absconded before and being considered very aggressive and paranoid.

In the second case, Martin Mursell, 28. was jailed for life for murdering his stepfather and almost killing his mother, despite her pleas to social and health services for help.

The twin convictions brought renewed condemnation from mental health charities over care

of the mentally-ill.

Marjorie Wallace, chief executive of SANE, said: "The people who should really be on trial are the health and social ter a jury cleared him of two services for failing people with erative". "He was ill, not unco-

Woman found alive in hospital bodybag

post mortem examination firm that a body brought into er by undertakers and was in a

the mortuary was found to have

signs of life. The person had

been pronounced dead by a GP

before arriving at the hospital.

takers for normal processing.

When signs of life were de-

tected, our mortuary worker did

the right thing and called our

emergency crash team. They

carried out resuscitation and

took the patient first to the Ac-

cident and Emergency Depart-

ment and then to the intensive

care unit. The person has now

been moved to a general ward

from intensive care and is mak-

ing satisfactory progress.

"It was brought in by under-

leave hospitals and abscond, and they are being put in the com-munity largely because of a lack of psychiatric beds.

John Bevan, prosecuting in the Mursell case, said those in a position to help the family had failed to do so. "As a result, the defendant's stepfather is dead and his mother very nearly died.

Mary Collins, Mursell's mother, wept as she described trying to convince social services that her son, who had a history of admission to mental hospitals, was ill and needed help. A week before the killing, social services said they could not help because he was "uncoop-

bodybag or shroud. Asked

whether the next port of call for

Mrs Banks would have been a

refrigerator, she replied: "That

they had been called to a "sud-

den death" at Mrs Banks's

home at 1.39am. The doctor,

who has not been named, had

pronounced the patient dead,

but would not issue a death cer-

tificate, so officers had to take

certain details to pass on to the

coroner. "If a doctor has pro-

nounced a patient dead, police

Cambridgeshire police said

would be a fair assumption."

Health Authority announced an independent inquiry as the agencies most closely involved in Mursell's care apologised to the family.

Islington Social Services said it had known Mr Mursell "for many years" while Camden and Islangton Community NHS Trust said it had "a long history" of contact with the family.

In the Hutchinson case, an inquiry is to be held into the actions of the hospital and health trust involved in his release. The investigation will examine why he was released and why he was allowed to remain free for more than eight weeks.

The court was told that a

locum doctor, who was not named, allowed Hutchinson

fused to discuss the incident.

saying they were under contract

to the area coroner, David

Morris, and were not allowed to

Claude, a farmer, was at the

hospital yesterday but he de-

said yesterday: "Unfortunately

everything was not happy at

home and the family is obviously

extremely distressed by what has

happened. Most friends and

family know what happened, but

it is so delicate no-one is

Mrs Banks's husband,

A family friend of the Banks

explain the circumstances.

clined to comment.

probably die anyway

Why bother?

Its due her chances of survival are less man children ithis country – but its not repeless

If you sponger a child like Them through ACTIONAID. you'll not only improve her chances of sorvival, but you'll also. que har a parter opportunit en life. Sa note ng closer, with the child's community, we can provide access to cate water health care, education, agricultural parting and a means of earning their own Irving

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section ONE

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officers are not going to argue and try to find a pulse," a talking about it. We will have to Ms Markey said the "body" spokesman said. see if Mr Banks wants to com-Ms Markey said: "I can con- had been put on a metal stretch-The undertakers. Cobbolds, plain about it.

Major sinks sale of Admiralty Arch

Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister has delivered an embarrassing snub to Michael Portillo, the Secretary of State for Defence, by intervening to veto the sale of Admiralty Arch, which connects Trafalgar Square to the Mall in London.

John Major acted after Mr Portillo, a strong advocate of

advise on options for the Arch, a landmark at the centre of British naval history for 85 years. A Downing Street spokesman said: "The Prime Minister was consulted in the last 24 hours and made his view clear."

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton, who labelled Mr Portillo "a little creep" over plans to sell off historic naval buildings, hailed the an-

roar. By putting a ferret down them as historic and important the great traditions of this counthe hole, we appear to have squirted something out."

The Government issued a statement yesterday saying it had "no intention" of selling the building. The reversal of its position came after a furious row erupted yesterday over comments made by Lord Hill-Norton, a former Chief of the Defence Staff. He fiercely criticised plans to sell the Royal privatisation, allowed the ap-pointment of consultants to delighted to have caused an up- Admiralty Arch, describing

parts of Britain's maritime heritage. "I would have thought that even a little creep like Mr Portillo would have understood that," he said.

The Armed Forces Minister Nicholas Soames leapt to Mr Portillo's defence. Mr Soames said: This Government has the highest regard for the historical importance and significance of the UK's heritage including the Royal Navy's heritage. Michael Portillo respects posal." A Department of the

try and takes pride in our national heritage

The speed of the U-turn caused confusion yesterday as the property consultants asked to study the options for the future of the Arch said they "did not know whether a sale was. one of the options. Richard Haynes, a partner in Knight Frank, said: "We haven't got our brief clarified yet. I don't know whether or not it includes disterday said: "The Government has no intention of selling Admiralty Arch and it will remain in public sector use." But sources had earlier said the

review of options was openended and included "disposal". Admiralty Arch was vacated by the Ministry of Defence in 1994, but part of it is still occupied by the First Sea Lord, Sir Jock Slater. Until yesterday's surprise statement, it had been

likely options for the building was "sale and leaseback", with a private contractor taking over the building, refurbishing it and then leasing office space

back to the public sector. A similar arrangement is currently under way with the Treasury building on Parliament Street, opposite the Houses of Parliament. Full bids for the Treasury from two consortia are due to be submitted by the end rise statement, it had been of this month, with a decision med that one of the more expected by the end of March.

Boy, 15, accused of head's murder

IN BRIEF

A 15-year-old boy appeared in court yesterday accused of mur-dering headmaster Philip Lawrence, who died last month after being stabbed as he went to the aid of a pupil being at-tacked outside his school in Maida Vale, north-west Lon-

The boy, who lives in Camden, north London, is further charged with conspiring with persons unknown to wound a schoolboy with the intention of causing grievous bodily harm. He was remanded into local authority secure accommodation and will appear again before Camden Youth Court on Tues-

Ulster killings

Police investigating five recent four in Belfast and one in Lurgan - were last night still ques-tioning two men and a woman arrested on Thursday. Re-sponsibility for the killings has been claimed by group calling itself Direct Action Against Drugs. Police believe it is a cover for the IRA...

Tanker claim

The owners of the Bruer oil tanker, which ran aground off Shetland in January 1993, spilling 85,000 tonnes of crude oil, have lodged a £1.7m claim from the emergency fund set up to compensate islanders. The shipping firm claims it is entitied to recoup the cost of the action it took to prevent damage as the wrecked tanker broke up. Islanders fear the application could threaten their own claims.

Heroes' farewell

The funerals were held yesterday of the two men who died trying to save the life of 11-yearold Tracey Pattison after she fell through ice last week at Hemsworth Water Park, West Yorkshire. Mick Mee, 48, a firemen, was buried with full brigade bonours in his home village of South Hiendley, near Barnsley. Jack Crawshaw, 51, of Wakefield, was laid to rest in a private cremation service attended by more than 100 family members and friends.

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enca, Africa and India) \$184.08: Zone 2 (Fa ices Ltd to 43 Milharbour, Landon E14 9TR or tel one (1171-538 8288. Credit cards welcome BACK ISSUES

Discharged schizophrenics: Attacks raise more questions over social services support

Murder followed cycle of

ROSIE WATERHOUSE

On 21 October 1994, a senior social worker from Islington council in north London wrote to Mary Collins, replying to her worries about her 28-year-old son, Martin Mursell, a paranoid schizophrenic who was living in an uninhabitable council flat and was refusing to see her.

We are unable to allocate a social worker because Martin does not wish to work with me, as you are probably aware. We will, of course, provide appropriate services if there is a fur-

ther crisis," the letter said. Seven days later he stabbed to death his step-father and almost killed his mother, in a frenzied attack in their home. Three months earlier Mursell, who was jailed for life yesterday, had been discharged from Whittington psychiatric hospital in north London. He had been placed in bed and breakfast accommodation and then into a flat with no furniture, gas or electricity and no cooking facilities. He received no support, despite pleas from his mother.

On 28 October, the day after he finally agreed to his mother's request and returned to live with her and his step-father, Joe Collins, whom she married in 1993, he attacked them both, killing Mr Collins and leaving her for dead. Then he called the police and gave himself up.

The tragic story of Mursell's mental illness reveals a scandalous lack of co-ordination

and care and cycle of neglect His breakdown began in about 1985, when he began to have paranoid delusions. He was jailed for four months in 1988 after an attack on his girlfriend, and was first compulsorily admitted to a psychiatric hospital for three months in February 1989, when he was diagnosed as suffering from a schizophrenic illness. He was readmitted for three months in February 1990 after stopping his medication. At the time he was



found his behaviour increasingly threatening and violent. In September 1992, the social services department went on strike and Mursell was not allocated a temporary social worker due to staff shortages. His condition deteriorated after he again stopped taking his

medication and began abusing alcohol and other drugs.

Mursell's relationship with his mother was breaking down and he was allocated a council flat. But in January 1993 he had a violent psychotic episode, went berserk, and wrecked his flat. He was admitted to hospital again, under the Mental Health Act, and discharged on the Easter bank holiday weekend, with no money, to the van-

Mursell moved back to his mother's one-bedroom flat. At first he took his medication but after developing severe side affects, he stopped. By October 1993, when his mother remarried, Mursell had deteriorated

they could not see any psychosis.

again. In July 1994, Mursell referred himself voluntarily to the Whittington hospital. But after only weeks he was told he had to leave. The doctors said

His mother called the social ervices department, to warn that she was worried about him. The response from the social worker suggests staff had given up trying to help. On 27 October, he moved back to his mother's. The next night he attacked her and his step-father.

Mistake' set free rampage killer

JASON BENNETTO

Wayne Hutchinson was a paranoid schizophrenic who was released from hospital by mistake and went on to kill two people and wound three others in a six-day rampage, the Old Bai-

ley was told. Hutchinson, 21, who had a history of absconding and was described as extremely paranoid and aggressive, was allowed home leave from which he ran away and carried out the killing spree. He stabbed to death a stranger and shot a nightclub

bouncer in south London. He was convicted of manslaughter yesterday on the grounds of diminished responsibility after a jury cleared him of two charges of murder. He was also found guilty of wounding three people with intent and attempted murder. He will be sentenced later.

Hutchinson was convicted after a month-long trial held amid tight security after one witness was murdered and others threatened. Armed police patrolled the court and the jury was under 24-hour protection.

The court was told a locum doctor at South Western Hospital, Brixton, mistakenly allowed Hutchinson four days home leave on 10 November 1994. He failed to return.

On Boxing Day, Hutchinson went on a six-day spree of violence. He shot dead Anthony Kelman, 30, a doorman, outside slashed a 17-year-old man with

On New Year's Eve Hutchinson stabbed three people in separate incidents. In the last attack he went into a late-night shop and stabbed Margaret Hatton. 41, in the heart and killed her. Hutchinson was arrested bours later after the shop owner, Tressel Foster, led police to his home. Mr Foster was later shot dead as he sat in his car. Other witnesses in the case received death threats.

Tory calls for rail 'pact' with Labour

COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

A leading backbench Tory MP has committed "heresy" by calling on John Major to agree a deal with Labour and the Liberal Democrats to scupper the privatisation of British Rail.

In a letter in today's Indeendent, Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow East, suggests the deal as part of a trade-off with the Opposition parties who would be asked to help the Government overcome resistance to a single currency by Euro-rebels in his party.

Mr Dykes says a trade-off with Labour and the Liberal Democrats on British Rail privatisation would enable the Prime Minister, faced with a dwindling majority in the Commons, to overcome the opposition of his Euro-sceptic wing for European Monetary Union.

"There is a large majority of MPs of all parties in favour of ... EMU. Any far-sighted na-tional leader or Prime Minister must acknowledge that fact. It may mean trade-offs with the Labour Party and the Liberal Democrats. But that too could be in the true national interest. Why not postpone BR privatisation to get Labour support on

EMU?" he says.
It will infuriate the Government and Euro-sceptic Tory
MPs still bristling with anger at
the defection of Emma Nicholson to the Liberal Democrats. It will also fuel fears that more Tory MPs on the One Nation wing of the party could follow

But in a separate move, Edwina Currie, another supportof closer European integration, is planning to appear on a platform with Labour MPs Giles Radice and Peter Mandelson on Monday to support wider understanding of the single currency.

fect from the Tory ranks, but made clear he was totally opposed to the privatisation of British Rail and may abstain in the vote. "It is regarded as heretical to

consider trade-offs with other parties, but it happens all the time in other Parliaments. I was in the Bundestag when the pri-vatisation of Lufthansa was announced after six months of talks and all-party agreement," Mr Dykes said last night.

garded as "heretical" by the Government, but he believed it

would be in the national inter-

est. He said he would not de-

The MP for Harrow East, regarded as a Europhile by his colleagues, said a cross-party trade-off to achieve progress on Europe would show political maturity in Britain. He attacked the rail privatisation plans as "a terrific mess".

Labour's deputy leader, John Prescott, will announce Labour plans on Monday to campaign in Tory marginal seats in an attempt to swing more Tory MPs behind Labour for a make-orbreak vote on rail privatisation in February. In a move to halt the mo-

mentum towards EMU, John Redwood, the Tory challenger for the leadership, last night warned the Government it could face fresh votes in the Commons over the plans agreed at the Madrid European summit by Mr. Major for the Euro.

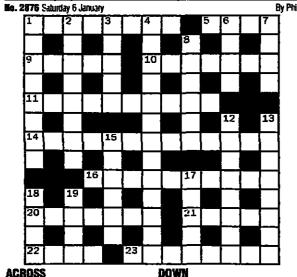
Mr Redwood said it would require a new treaty or a change to the Maastricht treaty because

it involved more than a change Mr Redwood said under the Maastricht treaty it was neces sary to be a member of the Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM) for two years before entering a single currency, in spite of denials by Mr Major. He

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concise crossword



... Brahms (composer)

Alban ... (composer) (4) London cricket ground (5) 10 Make more crude (7) 11 Having a navel (10) 14 Not suitable (13) 16 Cold continent (10)

20 Given instruction (7) 21 Trap (5) 22 Ogle (4) 23 Zeus' cupbearer (8)

Window shutter (8)

Tree (8) Of the nose (5) Large reference book Relaxation (4)

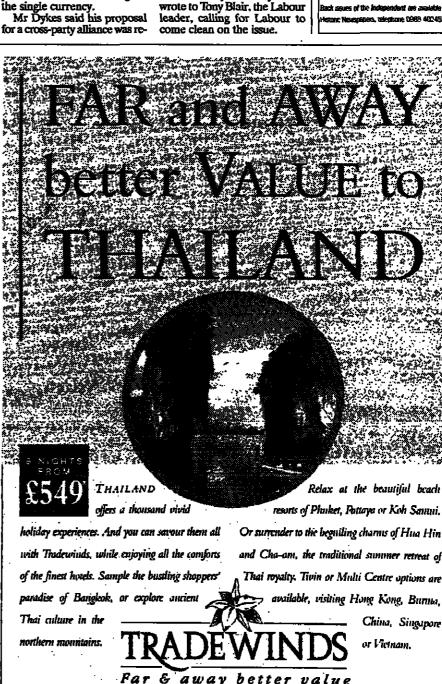
Tam-tam (4) Sampler (6) Protect with plastic (8) 13 Of a Middle Eastern country (8) 15 Writing implement (6)

17 ... Jones (train-driver) 18 Amount of film (4)

19 Number of muses (4)

Across: 1 Poker, 4 Hunters (Pocahontas), 8 Reactor, 9 Model, 10 Neigh, 11 Abdomen, 13 Echo, 15 Rialto, 17 Apices, 20 Ser., 22 Throaty, 24 Swami, 26 Brier, 27 Lionise, 28 Entrant, 29 Sound,
Down: 1 Partner, 2 Khaki, 3 Ratchet, 4 Hurrah, 5 Nomad, 6 Endemic, 7 Solon, 12 Boar, 14 Cost, 16 Airlift, 18 Pastors, 19 Stipend, 21 Eyelet, 22 Table, 23 Aorta, 25 Adieu

Weather forecast NOON FORECAST LIGHTING-UP TIMES 4.07 pm to 8.05 am 4.17 pm to 8.15 am 4.10 pm to 8.17 am 4.06 pm to 8.23 am 3.55 pm to 8.20 am 4.00 pm to 8.45 am 4.10 pm to 8.45 am 4.15 pm to 8.44 am HIGH TIDES AM HI PM 1.53 pm 6.6 2.17 pm 11.30m 9.1 11.50pm 7.22 pm 12.8 7.45pm Good Good Good Good Good Good Good 6.8 6.37 pm 3.3 1.12pm Out and about with AA Roas Car 0336 401777 for the latest local and restored leader from



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Blood on the floor at the Stock Exchange: how boardroom coup led to the sack of a reformer

John Willcock traces the conflict that opened a rift in one of the City's great institutions

When Michael Lawrence, chief executive of the Stock Exchange, woke up in his spacious detached house in Berkshire on Thursday, he had no inkling that this was to be a day that would change his life and provoke bitter accusations of skullduggery and in-fighting in the board-room of one of the City's key in-

He prepared for the regular board meeting, which was scheduled for 11am. Thirty minutes before the 17 members of the 20-man board were to gather on the 23rd floor of the Stock Exchange Tower in Leadenhall Street, Lawrence was informed that there was to be a vote on whether he should be sacked as chief executive.

The meeting was opened by the Exchange chairman, John Kemp-Welch, a rotund man and the embodiment of blueblooded City establishment. What followed had reverberations way beyond the confines of this boardroom and would effect the way shares are traded in London, and its position as a global financial centre.

Mr Kemp-Welch invited Mr Lawrence to rebutt the criticism that he had lost the confidence of the Exchange's member firms. Mr Lawrence spoke for 10 mmutes before he was asked to leave the room while a vote was taken. He never returned. The board voted by a majority to sack Mr Lawrence, just two years after his predecessor Pe-

ter Rawlins was given the push. Mr Lawrence's "offence" was to force through far-reaching reforms which will bring the City of London's share trading practices into line with those of New York and Tokyo. The changes would weaken entrenched institutions in the City, who pre-



Michael Lawrence: He believes that to make omelettes you have to break eggs, but his reforms were what got him sacked

fer the old ways. The Exchange says that the proposals had nothing to do with it. Mr Kemp-Welch stated: "Michael had failed to win the confidence of member firms, both large and small, and his relationship with the board for some months had been unsatisfactory."

Mr Lawrence returned home and released a short statement "There is a great team at the Exchange and a good programme for reform which will be rolled out in 1996. It is important that this programme goes ahead." Mr Lawrence's reforms strike troduce the "order driven" sys-

at the heart of City methodology. Uniquely, London preserves a system of quote-driven share trading. This involves firms of market makers posting offers to buy and sell shares on an electronic bulletin board, which in turn is used by stock brokers to buy and sell shares

Mr Lawrence belived this system did not guarantee the best price for institutions buying and selling shares. He also believed that the market makers at the heart of the system enjoyed too many privileges. Mr Lawrence wanted to in-

tem. This proposal immediately raised the hackles of the main market makers, who represent the old City establishment: BZW, Kleinwort Benson, SBC Warburg and NatWest Markets. They became Mr Lawrnece's main opponents.

On 13 November, Mr Lawrence issued a series of measures aimed at introducing the "order driven" system; buyers would put in an order and the seller would then quote a price for the shares.

This was the last straw for the market makers, who made insistent threats that he should

drop the reforms, or else they would get rid of him, despite the decent return. fact he had the support of other Exchange member firms.

This did not take Mr Lawrence by surprise. The reforms would make it easier for new competitors to enter the once-protected share trading arena, and would cost the market makers jobs and profits.

A souce close to Mr Lawrence said yesterday: "It's all about control. The Exchange is in a near monopoly position. since you have to go through the market makers. Yet many firms

Photograph: Geraint Lewis ties up captial without giving a vestment institutions, in 1988 as

finance director, and was con-

sidering retirement before join-

ing the Stock Exchange. In the

year up to last March, he earned a total of £442,000.

He can now, in the time-ho-

noured fashion, spend more

time with his family; he is mar-

ried with two sons and a daugh-

ter. And he can always cruise

around the Berkshire country-

side in the red Aston Martin he

Rowan Atkinson to celebrate

his appointment to the job he

departed in such acrimonious

Michael Lawrence is no stranger to controversy, and clearly relishes taking on some of the City's big hitters. He has stirred up opposition from colleagues he considers his intellectual inferiors. His academic credentials are impressive; a first in Physics from Exeter Univertsity followed by a Phd in

Mathematical Physics at Bristol He started his career as an accountant with Price Waterhouse in 1969. He joined the Pruden-

Labour may tax child benefit

GOUL HUGUL Education Editor

Labour is to consider propos-als to tax child benefit to pay for education vouchers and to compel parents to attend school to discuss their child's education. David Blunkett, the party's education spokesman, promised to look at the plans put forward yesterday by Professor Michael Barber, an adviser both to

Labour and the Government. Professor Barber, of London University's Institute of Education, told the North of England education conference that child benefit should be taxed to provide £200 a year in education vouchers for the poorest 4 million four- to 18 year-olds.

The vouchers, which would be handed out at compulsory parents' evenings, would have to be used for books, computer software, extra tuition, or time at a homework centre.

Professor Barber, whose remarks provoked the anger of parents and teachers, said that parents should he given a statutory duty to attend their child's school every six months.

Mr Blunkett said: "It is vital to use every means feasible to involve parents in their children's education. We proposed home-school contracts and plans for new homework guidelines last year. Michael's other ideas are interesting and we will look further at them."

But Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education, ruled out a tax on child benefit to pay for school vouchers. She said she liked the professor's strong emphasis on the importance of parental involvement, but added: "I think taxing child benefit is an idea that he will have to sell rather hard."

And Margaret Morrissey, of the National Confederation of bought from the comedian Parent-Teacher Associations said that most parents were already doing what Professor Barber wants.

Lottery fever: £40m jackpot pulls in secretaries to sheep farmers

'Everyone's gone ticket crazy'

Chauffeurs, secretaries and stockbrokers queued beside ticket inspectors and company directors in record numbers yesterday at Liverpool Street railway station's lottery kiosk, the busiest in Britain, to share the chance of scooping the

£40m lottery jackpot.

The line of hopeful gamblers snaking into the main concourse never shrank. The largest purchase was £1,000 for a syndicate of City office workers. "The whole thing has gone completely mental in the last few days. Sales are more than double the usual," said a spokeswoman for UK CL Retail, which runs the kiosk.

According to Tony Moss, the kiosk manager, regular players were spending an average £5-£7 on tickets compared to £2 in a normal week. "You can see there are a lot of new people playing by the way they fill out the slips, because there's an art

A number of pinstriped bankers and city directors were also playing the lottery this week, although most proved re-luctant to admit it. "I've bought a ticket, but I don't wish to tell you my name," said one head of a management consultancy. "He's the director," hissed his assistant as they departed.

over whether the record prize was too high. Robert Harman, 52. a chauffeur in a syndicate of 10. said: "I suppose it should be split, but if someone came up to me with £40m I wouldn't The queues were no less

impressive at the other end of

The players were divided



The lottery kiosk queue at Liverpool Street yesterday

Britain, in the Shetland Isles, They began before dawn at Conochies on the High Street, with customers unperturbed by the the wind, rain and darkness. Tom Worthington, the manager, said sales were up more than 50 per cent and regular cus-tomers, including fishermen, oil workers and sheep farmers, were doubling their normal spend on tickets from £2 to £4.

The highest prize paid out on ticket so far at Conochies is £97,000, and Mr Worthington said the shop was ready to provide a jackpot winner, although he said it would be impossible for anyone to keep it a secret on the island.

The frenzy for tickets was intensified because the shop was closed until Tuesday because of the snow. "It's been non-stop," Mr Worthington said.

"The bottom line is, irrespective of what they say, every-one wants to win the big prize. We're not interested in the morality of it. There's a big pot



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JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

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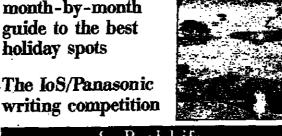
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In the Sunday Review

The Travel Calendar: month-by-month guide to the best holiday spots

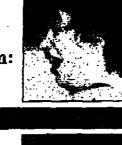


In Real Life

Why liberals hate **Jo Brand**

Zippies, Brit, Babeism: the 90s in a nutshell

Plus



Can he be serious? Andy Beckett on George Michael

Astrology: fact or fraud?



Underground shutdown: Passengers in London facing 18 months of disruption to allow urgent repair work on crumbling tunnels

Line closures nightmare for Tube travellers

JAMES CUSICK

Eighteen months of line closures and disruption on London's underground network to allow crucial engineering repair work was announced vesterday by London Transport.

The scale of the disruption, and the level of chaos it will cause the 26 million passengers who use the system daily, brought widespread condem- and Elephant and Castle in

nation from user groups and opposition politicians.

The urgent repairs, costing £87m - including work on the decaying Victorian and Edwardian tunnels that carry trains beneath the Thames - will mean staggered closures from March this year until autumn 1997. The most drastic shutdown will affect the Bakerloo Line between Piccadilly Circus

be closed for eight months from the end of the year.

Commuters using two of the capital's busiest rail termini at Charing Cross and Waterloo home of the Eurostar Channel tunnel operation - will be particularly hard hit by the repair programme

Labour's transport spokesman, Brian Wilson, concerned with underfunding for London

scale of the disruption is a pubstatement in the House of Commons next week. He said: "Lonlic relations disaster for London don is paying the penalty for 16 fares tomorrow by an average of 4.5 per cent. The company years of prejudice against the public sector. We are left with insists that no more than an infrastructure that cannot support services required by a 100,000 passengers will be affected each day. modern economy.

Peter Ford, chairman of Lon-Sources at London Underdon Transport, said details of closures and alternative routes had been "decades of underfunding where repair and mainwould be given out soon in spe-

ruling parties .

A spokeswoman said: "This Underground, which raises year we will spend £414m on core maintenance work. The June this year. Tunnel strength-£80m projects represent less than a quarter.

And she added: "We could have easily spent £700m, because other parts of the system ground said yesterday that there are simply crumbling. The partial shutdown was the result of a policy of "doing nothing, till

south London. This section will Underground, called for a full cially prepared timetables. The tenance was ignored - by both something stopped working. The closures include: the

Northern Line, Charing Cross Branch, from 30 March to 30 ening work will mean no weekend service between Charing Cross and Kennington. Further work will mean closures between

Camden and Kennington. On the City Branch of the Northern Line, there will be closures from July to October this

year. On the Waterloo and City. Line, there will be closures from 4 to 14 April.

The southern section of the Bakerloo Line will be shut down for eight months from the

end of this year.
Work will also be carried out on the Putney Bridge to Wimbledon services on the District Line and there may also be disruptions to the Metropolitan Line at weekends

The main areas affected in the £87m repair project Bakertoo and Northern lines under the Thames at Hungerford Bridge. Bakertoo closure for eight months from the end of 1996, affecting trains between Piccadilly and Dephard and Castle stations. Northern Line (Charing Cross branch) closed at weekends from March 30 to June 30 1996. Easter weekend closure affecting trains between Caraden Town and Kennington. Northern Line (City branch) work from July to October 1996 Enlarging turnel under London Bridge will mean partial closure of Camden Town to Kennington. Tunnel work at Old Street will also affect services between Moorgate and Controlled. 3. East London Line. Brunel's Tunnel recently listed as hentage structure. Planning permission for repair work still being sought. 4, Wimbledon branch of District Line, south to Putney Bridge. Repairs to Thames rad bridge. Dates of repairs not known yet.

Waterworks beneath the Thames

The expertise required to upgrade and repair the decaying Victorian and Edwardian civil engineering works under the Thames will challenge anything London Underground has attempted, writes James Cusick.

Details of the tendering deal have yet to be finalised, but for the contractors who take on the job the risks involved in the £80m project will be high.

After 70 years of scouring since it opened in 1926, only a

few metres lie between the riverbed and the decaying roof of the Northern Line tunnel beneath Hungerford bridge. London Underground said it was concerned with the roof and "the whole structural integrity of the tunnel".

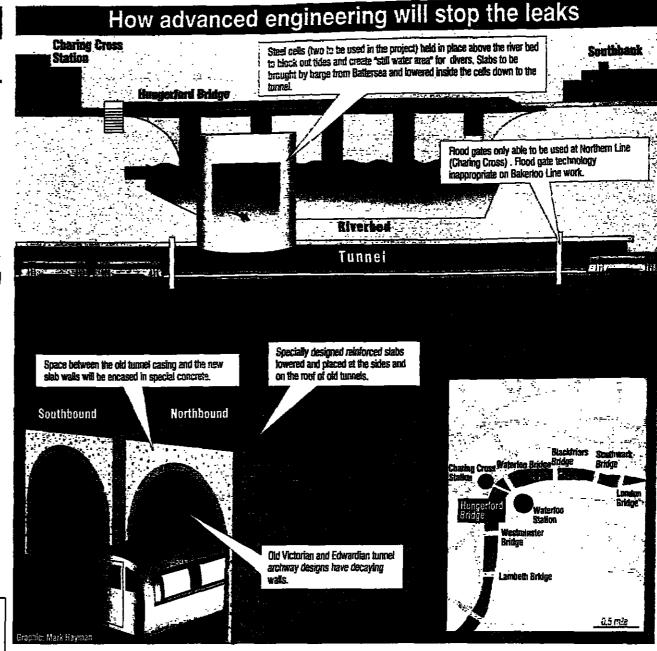
A few metres deeper lies the Bakerloo Line river tunnel built in 1906. The ingress of water in both tunnels was diplomatically understated by an Underground spokeswoman as "more

than we would like". Water, however, affects the whole Tube system with 3 million gallons being pumped out every day. Another repair, when plan-

ning permission is granted, will be on Brunel's Thames tunnel. Built in 1843 and a listed structure, it "desperately needs work", engineers say. London Underground admits it has operated an only-when-something-goes-wrong fix-it policy for decades. A spokeswoman said:

"Everything has an expiry date. Now the time is really up."

Preparing the subterranean river crossing for the next 100 years will involve closing off the Thames tides using two huge, open-topped steel cells to enable work to be carried out in still conditions. Divers operating inside the cells will lower reinforced slabs down on to the riverbed. The arched tunnels will then have their sides and roof encased by the slabs.



Inflation warning over pay deals

DIANE COYLE Economics Correspondent

Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, said yesterday that a pick-up in pay set-tlements would pose a threat to the prospect of future interest rate cuts. His warning came on the day that Vauxhall car workers rejected a pay offer of 4.5 per cent.

It also came shortly before the Cabinet considers the pay review bodies' recommendations on awards for 1.4 million public-sector workers. The bodies, covering teachers, doctors. dentists and nurses, the armed forces and "top salaries" for judges and mandarins, are believed to have recommended pay increases above the current 3.1 per cent inflation rate.

Mr George said there were potentially negative aspects of the outlook for inflation alongside the encouraging features. He highlighted pay deals and rapid growth of the money supply. In an interview on BBC radio, he said: "We have recently seen a few settlements - settlements which other people pay attention to - which may be justified in themselves but can be taken as a kind of lead for others where they wouldn't be justified in the same way."

He said the low level of pay rises so far, running at about 3 per cent, had been encouraging. But the motor companies have traditionally been seen as pacesetters on wages. Ford unions are preparing a strike ballot in support of a 10 per cent claim. Vauxhall car workers yester-

day rejected a three-year pay offer. Workers at its Luton and Ellesmere Port plants voted against accepting an offer of a 4.5 per cent pay rise now, followed by an increase in line with inflation over the next two years, as well as a one-hour cut in the 39-hour week.

Mr George said the Bank of England would be monitoring the situation closely, with January a particularly important month for settlements. Although prospects for the British economy were "extraordinarily favourable," he said, there was certainly a possibility that the recent quarter point cut in rates would have to be reversed within six months.



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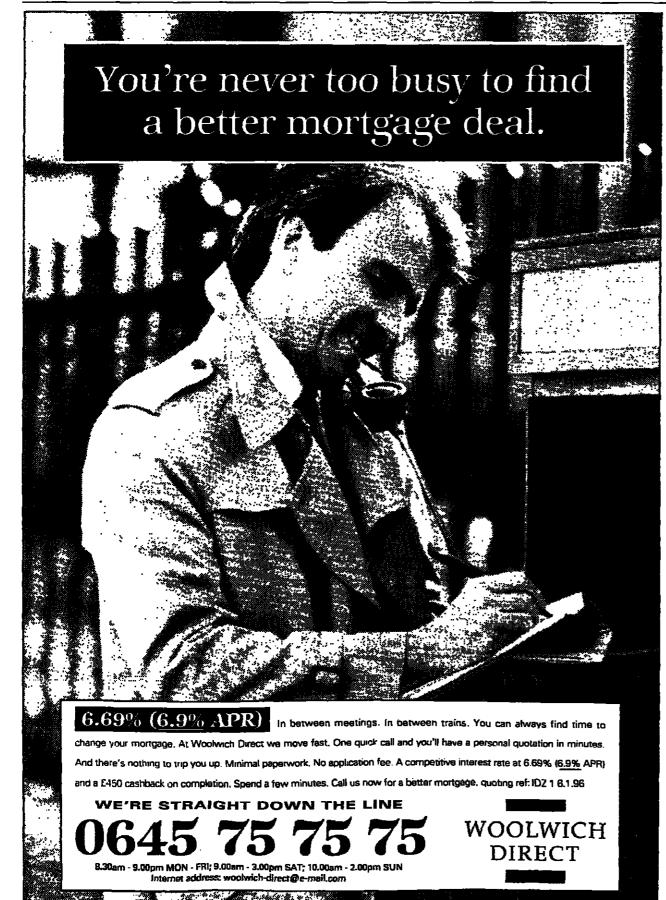
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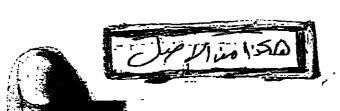
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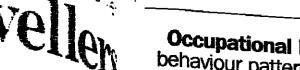
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Occupational Psychology Conference: National behaviour patterns could limit business opportunities

'Bashful Brit' women lose out in networking

Women in professional jobs conform to all the national stereotypes - bashful Brits, sociable Spaniards and assertive Americans, according to an occupational psychologist.

As business becomes more nternational, there is a danger it will all end in mutual misunderstanding: American women risk being dismissed as "pushy", Spanish women as "unfocused" and the British as "aloof". Cultural differences could limit the success of women outside their own country.

When they "network" with other females in similar professions with personal advancement in mind, the British tend to be stand-offish and to ack self-confidence. Carole Pemberton of the Sunridge Park Management Centre told the annual occupational psychology conference of the British Psychological Society in Eastbourne, East Sussex.

British women use networking to learn from colleagues in more senior positions. "They want to be near powerful people, but they believe they should network over much longer timescales so that people grad-ually discover their talent.

They back off from the more overt pushy approach of the Americans," Ms Pemberton

The Brits are never quite sure when or how to follow up a social contact with a conversation about business.

When a British woman goes to the United States they may be tempted to hover on the fringes of a social gathering ex-

pecting to be noticed by some-one important. She will find, however, that American colleagues will be "in there presenting themselves".

points of contact. As job mar-kets become more fragmented,

ly important method of secur-

mg employment, Ms Pember-

belong to golf clubs, unlike men very few of them get jobs through membership," she said.

Some people were filled with

dread about entering a room

and introducing themselves to

strangers, but it was necessary

if women were ambitious.

While women sometimes

ton contended.

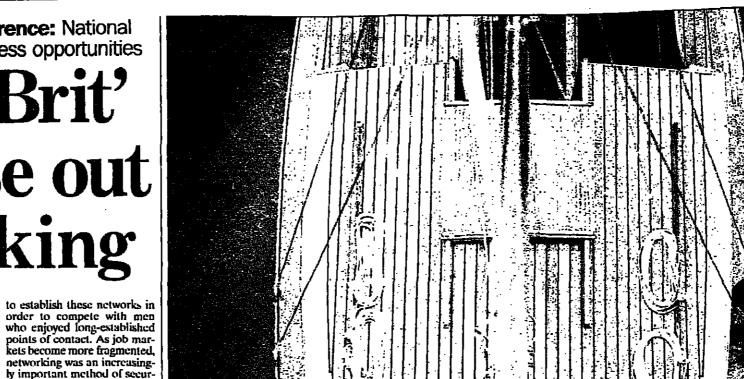
Americans see networking occasions as an "arena for trading business cards. They tend to "work the room", moving on rapidly from conversation which is unlikely to elicit employment or business opportunities. "If they don't get rapid pay-offs from belonging to a network, they're off very rapidly," Ms Pemberton said.

The Spanish, however, are more "laid back" and network to be sociable and to have fun with people they like. They not so much work the room as "expand into it", Ms Pemberton said. "Having fun seems to be the main point."

The researchers conclusions were drawn from a study of the European Women's Management Development Network which operates in 17 countries, including the United States, and aims to promote the cause of women in business.

The organisation wanted to know whether women who held high-level posts joined and left networks for the same reasons, understood that the success of such contacts depended on the same skills and saw the same benefits in membership.

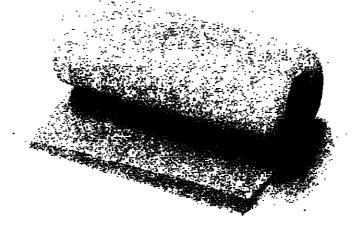
Ms Pemberton argued there was a growing danger that women who worked "outside their culture" would fail to get the support they needed from peers because their approach was misunderstood.



In for the keel: A visitor to the 42nd London International Boat Show, which opens at Earls Court today and runs until 14 January. The show covers more than 14 acres of display space, taken up by more than 650 exhibitors and over 850 craft

Photograph: Tony Buckingham

How to cash a cheque.



Casuals 'happier than full-timers'

than their full-time counterparts, according to a study by occupational psychologists. writes Barrie Clement.

Surprisingly, casual employees were more committed to the organisation, reported higher job satisfaction and better mental health, the University of Sheffield found.

In a survey of a circuit-board components manufacturer in the Midlands, full-time staff were found to feel "threatened and vulnerable" as the labour market became increasingly flexible in response to eco-

The authors, Catriona Rus-sell Gardner and Paul Jackson of the university's Institute of Work Psychology, conceded that the positive attitudes of casual personnel might not last if they believed they would always be on short-term contracts. Most wanted to secure full-time

employment with the company. The researchers concluded, however, that "short-term contracts undoubtedly suit some

☼ Contrary to popular belief, temThe relative depression of by their feeling that their input into the organisation in terms of skill and experience was not fully rewarded compared with the earnings of temporary staff, the authors said.

Management generally as-sumed that permanent workers would see casual staff as a 'buffer" against redundancy. Thus the "peripheral" personnel could be laid off when product demand slowed, rather than the full-timers.

But the study found that the idea of the buffer failed to make full-timers feel more secure, especially as the company had been going through a period of uncertainty.

The authors told the conference there had been a considerable rise in part-time and short-term contracts. In the UK nearly 50 per cent of employers had increased employment of part-timers between 1990 and 1992. Nearly 40 per cent of organisations reported that their use of temporary or casual work had increased over the previous three years.

Quiet funeral for **Brixton riot man**

IAN MacKINNON

In an emotional but calm funeral, relatives and friends yesterday buried Wayne Douglas, the man whose death in a police cell provoked rioting in Brixton, south London, last month.

The sadness at his death from heart failure was heightened as it came two weeks after the still-born birth of his baby son, Raekwon.

Yesterday, they were laid to rest in the same coffin at Streatham Park cemetery after a 30-minute service attended by about 150 mourners.

Nadine Beckford, his partner, expressed their sense of loss at the death of Mr Douglas, 25. "He was great at making a had situation humourous," she said. "He loved life. I was looking forward to having his son. I know he would have made a good dad. He was not given enough

time to make mistakes." There was little mention of the circumstances of his death on 5 December after he was arrested for a suspected burglary. or the violence a week later. Two post mortem examinations, one carried out by an independent pathologist for the family, found death was caused by heart failure due to an existing condition. can't speak for them."



Wayne Douglas: Died in police custody after arrest

Lee Jasper, of the National Black Caucus, speaking after the service, said witnesses to the arrest claimed Mr Douglas had been brutally beaten by police and this contributed to his death. He called for a rigorous investigation, aside from that being conducted by the Police Complaints Authority, a body which did not have the confidence of the black community.

Albert Douglas, Wayne's elder brother, said he merely wanted it to be a day for mourning. "This day is one of great sadness. There may be some anger in the community, but I

When expecting a cheque in the post, some blind people ask the sender to attach it to a piece of textured paper, like kitchen roll, so that it is not confused with a compliment slip, or thrown away by mistake.

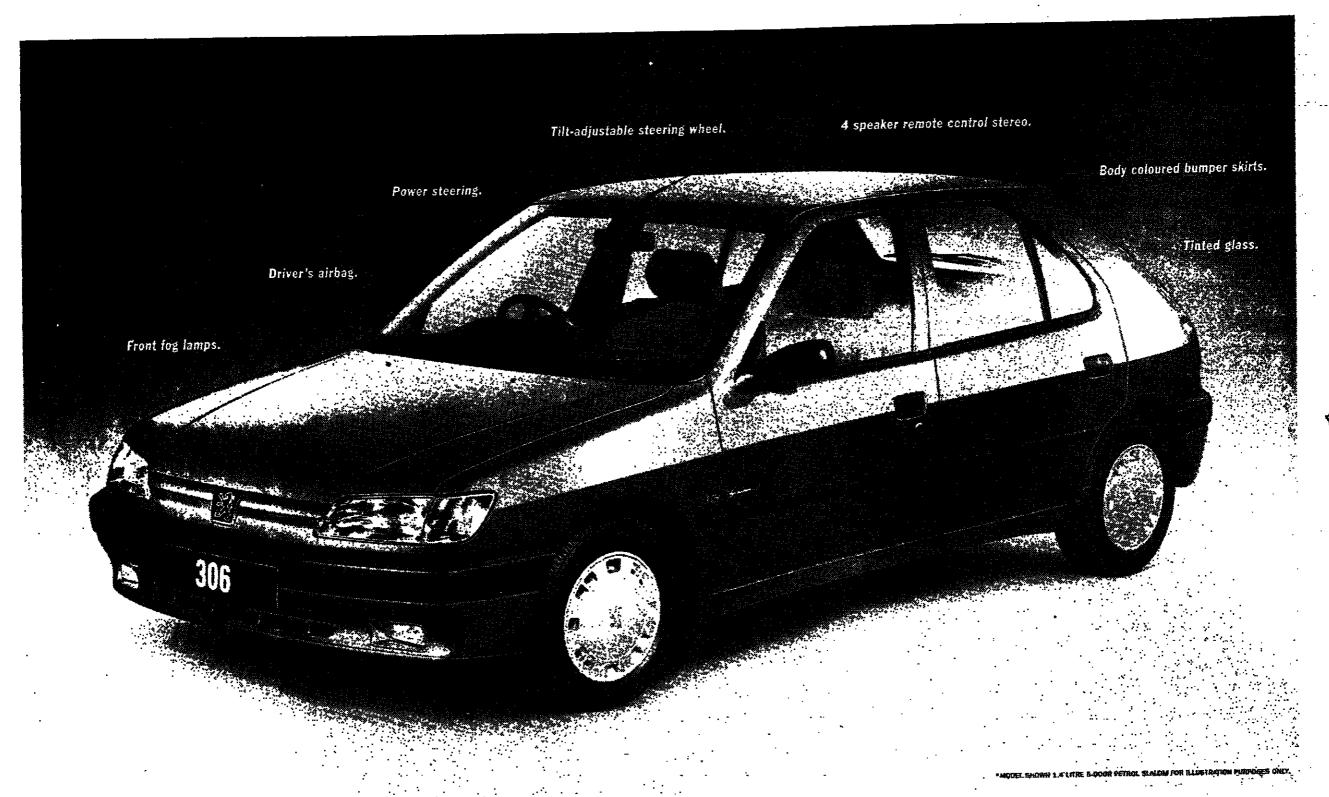
It's a simple solution to one of the frustrating problems that arise when blind people are sent information they cannot read. The Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) understands the indignity visually impaired people feel at having to rely on others to read out private and confidential information. That's why we campaign for blind people to have access to information in 'readable' forms. Many companies like banks and telephone networks now provide bank statements and phone bills in large print, braille and tape. But many day to day tasks require information which is usually produced in a form blind people find useless. RNIB

will convert any specific printed items on request. From bus timetables and washing instructions to knitting patterns and the recipe for soufflé. Even the sheet music to Händel's 'Messiah'. RNIB also has braille and tape libraries stocking literature ranging from Barbara Cartland to Karl Marx. RNIB's work is particularly important if you consider that many of the one million blind or partially sighted people in Britain live alone. Perhaps you know someone who suffers from poor sight. Someone who could benefit from the services we offer. Someone who may not realise that people are there to help them. For more details about RNIB call us on 0171 388 1266.

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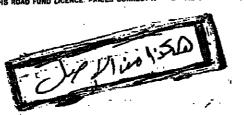
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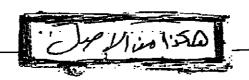
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Elephant victims of bloodlust safaris





Death trail: Sleepy the elephant bull dusting himself off (above) and enjoying happier times (right) before he and three other males were slaughtered by safari hunters

Big game hunting causes revulsion, but some conservationists defend it as a necessary evil. Nicholas Schoon reports

The big, white hunter is alive gal with permits, which are and well and slaughtering ele-available at a high price and

phants in Africa. Each year hundreds of wealthy people, predominantly Germans and Americans, fly out on safari looking to shoot a variety of species. The cost of their sporting holiday packages, which usually last several weeks, can top £30,000, while the government fee for shooting one elephant runs into thousands of pounds.

The continued hunting causes widespread revulsion but it defended as a necessary evil by some wildlife conservationists. Even Kenya, a bastion against big game hunting, is now considering allowing limited elephant shooting outside national parks.

Just over a year ago four mature bull males, led by an elephant called Sleepy, wandered from Kenya a few miles across the international border into Tanzania, where hunting is le-

aimed at foreign huntsmen. The four were shot by an American and two Germans. Their safaris and hunting permits were obtained by a Tanzanian-based company, Northern Hunting Enterprises, and the beasts were extremely easy to shoot because they were semi-tame.

They had become used to the steady stream of camera-wielding tourists and their mini vans in Kenya's Amboseli National Park, where they had spent most of their lives.

"It was about as sporting as shooting your neighbour's poodle," said Cynthia Moss, an American zoologist who has studied the 900 elephants in Amboseli for 25 years.

Although the trade in ivory is banned under an international treaty, there is no law against the hunters taking the males' huge tusks home as trophies. They were removed using a chain-saw



Trophy piece: A hunter poses with the carcass of one of the slaughtered buil elephants

and the ears, tail and feet were also kept. The shooting of one of the elephants, 50-year-old Sabore, was video-recorded and photographed for one of the Germans, Utz Rittmeyer, a businessman. Also filmed were

the celebrations which followed and the gory taking of the trophies. The photographs and footage were obtained by a German journalist.

During the next fortnight, on Wednesday and Sunday week,

BBC 2 will be showing two programmes about the Amboseli elephants filmed over a six-year period. The first includes footage of the males before they were shot, while in the second, film-maker Martyn Colbeck it brings income to local com-

discovers the skeletons of two of them picked clean by

Permits for big game hunters to shoot elephants are granted in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Zambia and the Central African Re-public. The Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) says that Tanzania allows up to 50 of its 54,000 elephants to be legally shot each year.

In some African national parks, elephant numbers have been rising thanks largely to the ivory trade ban. As the human population also increases there have been growing conflicts around the parks between the elephants and peasant farmers who see their crops destroyed by the huge mammals. In Kenya, more than 70 people a

year are being killed by them.
The WWF believes that commercial sport hunting can be justified as a last resort, provided

munities, poses no threat to the elephant population and can be shown to be environmentally

beneficial. The organisation, which took the lead in fighting for the ivory ban, believes these conditions are nearest to be fulfilled in Zimbabwe where up to 250 elephants can be shot each year. If local people benefit financially from the hunting then they are given an incentive to preserve a healthy elephant population and natural habitats, rather than turning all the land

over to crops and pasture. Last summer, a Kenyan government commission set up to look into conflicts between wildlife and people recommended the resumption of hunting.

"We are going to look at this extremely seriously," respond-ed David Weston, who took over as head of Kenya's wildlife service from the conservationist Dr Richard Leakey.

Computer makers tool up for children

CHARLES ARTHUR Las Vegas

Parents who feel their offspring need a head start in an increasingly technological world will soon be able to buy computers designed for children aged between three and seven.

Mike Heil, a senior manager with computer company Compaq, told the Consumer Electronics show in Las Vegas: "If children are 100 young to learn to use high-technology products, why can they work out how to program the videotape recorder before their parents?"

The new "Wonder Tools" are produced jointly by Com-paq, the world's largest PC maker, and Fisher-Price, the biggest maker of pre-school products. Designed to plug into a multimedia PC capable of playing CD-roms, they consist of a "steering wheel" with joystick for younger children, and simplified keyboard with improved mouse for older children

earning to spell. Both companies see huge market potential: there are already 44 million multimedia PCs in homes worldwide and this figure is expected to reach 71 million by 1999. Although there have been computer games for pre-school children in the past, they have either not run on conventional PCs, or have needed a keyboard and mouse, which younger children find difficult to operate.

Another problem is young inquisitive players deleting im-portant files. But the children's keyboards hide special keys notably the "Delete" key.

The products will be available in the US from this summer, costing \$150 (£98) and in the UK by Christmas 1997.

The delay in international sales, Compaq's consumer vice-president, Celeste Dunn, said, was that "culturalising" the software required more than spelling changes. "We've noticed that in Britain when a cat makes a noise in a software game, it's more of a 'miaow' sound than in the US, where it's more like meow'. And rhymes and humour are different. And with children, if you get those sorts of things wrong, they just dismiss the product completely."



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Church decline slowed by zeal of evangelism

Churches are holding on to more of their congregations as they become more userfriendly, according to a report published vesterday.

Schemes such as mission projects have helped to slow the fall in congregations seen during the Eighties, the rise in donations is no longer being outstripped by inflation, and the number of new churches opening exceeds the number of closures. There is currently one new congregation a week.

The figures highlight the Church's success in the first half of its "decade of evangelism". In a "half-term" study, the Church says pledges have risen 20 per cent in real terms. Latest figures show the average parishioner gave £4.52 a week in 1993 against £3.77 in 1990.

Average attendances are down since 1990 - from 1.14 million to 1.09 million But the report says the decline has slowed. It claims the Church of England has become more "user-friendly" in its attempts to grow and spread the Chris-

No longer does it rely on

A blitz on the basics, through

20 new literacy and numeracy

centres, will ensure that children

work rather than play when they

start school. Gillian Shephard

The Secretary of State for

Education told the North of

England education conference

in Gateshead that the centres.

costing £25m over five years, aimed to outlaw "trendy" teach-

ing and promote more effective

methods. "An over-emphasis

on unsupervised discovery

methods have held children

back in some schools for too

DDDL HINGUL

said yesterday.

long," she said.

Gospel. Instead the whole congregation is involved.

This has been achieved against the odds. Rapid changes in society worldwide are hindering the communication of the Gospel, the report says. These include a rejection of "ex-ternal authority", and a growth of individualism and cynicism that have led to a rejection of any attempt to take a wider view

Canon Robert Warren, national officer for evangelism and the report's author, highlighted a number of signs that the Church was grappling with evangelism in new and creative ways. There was a wider range of community projects, including parenting courses, and more people were attending training events to learn new ways of communicating the faith.

Much of the success was due to listening to communities and going out to people to answer their auestions.

It has also been helped by the involvement of the whole congregation in spreading the message and the move towards the celebration, not just the decla-ration of belief. "These are all

Shephard 'blitz' on basics

by local authorities or inspec-

tors. Full-time consultants will

help them set targets of

achievement and plan staff

training. A national centre will

co-ordinate the work and train

In her speech to the conference, Mrs Shephard said:

"Good teachers spend all their

time teaching, not waiting for

pupils to learn. This project will make a real difference where it

matters. By the end of the pro-

ject, centres could have worked

ucation spokesman, said: "Last

year, the Government axed its

David Blunkett, Labour's ed-

with 2,000 primary schools."

project staff.

will be referred to the centres reading recovery programme

quite spontaneous changes taking place in the way the Church is doing evangelism," Canon Warren says. "As such, they represent a less clergy-dependent, more team-based, userfriendly approach to communicating the faith."

But the report concludes that challenges still lie ahead. More needs to be done to change the inner culture of churches, and while many churches have developed specific initiatives, there are still those who have failed to "engage seriously with the implications of the decade".

Launching the report, the Bishop of Wakefield, the Rt Rev Nigel McCulloch, said the signs of growth "confound the doomand-gloom merchants claiming the Church of England is on its last legs". He said a number of targets

had been identified for the second half of the decade. More needed to be done to reach out to children and young people and more effort had to be placed on deepening the Church's spiritual life. "Evangelism and mission have to undergird all we do: they are not optional extras," he added.

which had proved highly suc-

cessful in tackling weaknesses

in literacy. While the £5m-a-year

programme is welcome, it

merely restores a third of what

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of

Head Teachers, said the initia-

tive was "a drop in the ocean"

There should be a substantial in-

crease in resources so that all

primary schools could benefit.

Diana Wright, chairman of the National Confederation of

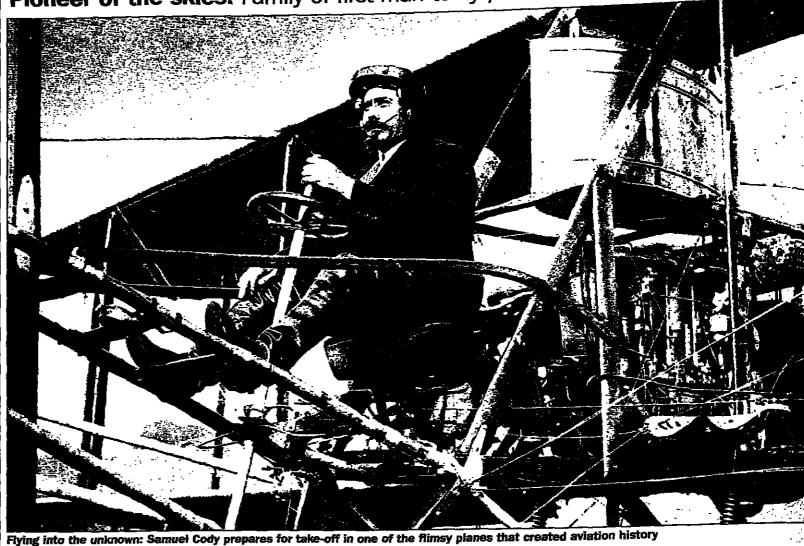
Parent Teacher Associations

said: "Children only get one chance. Why should not that

chance be available for all?"

he argued.

Pioneer of the skies: Family of first man to fly plane in Britain to sell collection



Memories of a magnificent man of flight

JOHN McKIE

A unique collection of aviation memorabilia will be sold when the complete archive of Samuel Franklin Cody, the first man to fly an aeroplane in Britain almost 90 years ago, goes under the hammer later this month.

The archive, which has been kept in the Cody family since his death in 1913, will be auctioned at Sotheby's London branch on 24 January.

The material includes Cody's original flying helmet and outfit, the aviation plans he drew up and his diaries relating the experience of his early flights. as well as many of the contraptions he used to fly.

The sale also includes two massive Michelin bronze trophies for British aeronauts estimated at £35,000-£45,000, and. a solid silver presentation model of The Cody Flyer worth



New world: The 19th century meets the 20th century as horses drag Cody's plane

£40,000-£60,000. The original engines used to power Cody's aircraft and the leather saddle used by Cody for riding displays are also on offer.

The archive was put up for

auction by Cody's great-grandsons Peter, 41, and John, 46, who were unable to continue to house the huge array of objects in their homes at Farnborough. Hampshire. Farnborough was also the original working base Cody chose after his career as a cowboy, buffalo hunter and circus sharp-shooter. The Texan toured Britain with his Wild West shows before turning his

attention to aviation, when his interest in kites came to the notice of the British Army. He then became designer and pilot for Britain's first power aircraft, nicknamed "The Flying Cathedral", on which Cody made the first flight over Britain on

16 October, 1908. In 1912, Cody beat the best in Europe in a display competition of the Army's aircraft trials. However, another contest the following year, the Coastal Circuit of Britain, was to claim his life. The aircraft broke up and Cody was killed in the resulting crash. More than 50.000 people attended his funeral at Aldershot Military Cemetery.

Sotheby's aeronautica expert, Stephen Maycock, said: There hasn't been an archive like it ever offered in the history of its field." Prospective buyers can view the archive from Monday until 23 January.

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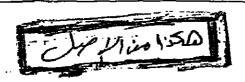
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Howard bows to Saudi arms pressure

TIM MCGIRK New Delhi

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, indicated yesterday that the British government is expelling the Saudi dissident. Mohammed al-Masari, because his presence in Britain is jeopardising lucrative arms deals with the Saudi royal family.

"I think it's quite well known that the Saudi government was unhappy over the activities of Mr al-Masari," Mr Howard told The Independent. He added: "If there are two ways in which we can comply with our international obligations [on human rights], one of which damages our national interest and the prospects of jobs in Britain, and one way which doesn't, we are perfectly entitled to chose the way which doesn't damage our

Mr Masari was expelled after the Saudis threatened to tear up arms contracts with British firms worth billions of pounds if the dissident stayed in Britain. A former physics professor, Mr Masari was waging a one-man accused of corruption. John Major, had twice been nied yesterday, for the second the big news. People are still

asked by the Saudi government, in 1994 and in October ricane - had received any in-1995, to have Mr Masari re-

Caribbean island of 75,000 peo-

was destroyed last year by a hurcentive to take the dissident, Mr

reduced its foreign development aid overall. Dominica's

Although Britain has rights groups who accuse the tion for tolerance and free educed its foreign develop- Tory government of jettisoning speech, but we also intend to inthe rights of free speech and po-litical asylum for weapons con-

sure that people don't exploit

acteristics of British society. Dominica doesn't give a banana about exile

longtime prime minister suc-

saw no danger of a surge of fun-

about four of them on the is-

hats, call themselves Muslims

back to governments that might Dame Eugenia Charles, the arrest, torture or kill them. The Home Secretary, on a South Asian tour to seek help ceeded by Mr James last year. said the figure of 100 Muslims from Indian and Pakistani offiwas exaggerated and that she cials in stemming the flow of illegal immigrants and heroin into damentalism. "There are only Britain, said taxpayers were spending £200m a year on soland," she said, "They're not cial security for refugees seek-

laws on immigrants seeking po-litical asylum in Britain. Many

political exiles - among them

Sikhs, Kashmiris, Tamils, Ira-

nians, and Nigerians 100 - have

sought sanctuary in Britain

from hostile regimes back

home. The decision to expel Mr

Masari is seen by many politi-cal refugees as an alarming

precedent, one that might pave

the way for them to be shipped

real Muslims. They wear white ing political asylum. "Only 4 per cent of these asy lum-seekers are found to be genuine refugees," Mr Howard said. "They can appeal, but those whose appeals succeed are tiny in number. There's no reason they should be collecting benefits during the very

IN BRIER

Scandal threatens Lithuanian PM

Vilnius - The defence and foreign ministers of Lithuania resigned, saying they could no longer work with the Prime Minister, Adolfas Slezevicius, who has been implicated in a banking scandal.

Linas Linkevicius, the Defence Minister, and Povilas Gylys, the Foreign Minister, submitted their resignations Algirdas

to President Brazauskas, who has not yet accepted them. The ruling Labour Democratic Party decided that Mr Slezevicius could stay on, despite revelations that he withdrew funds from his account at the country's largest private bank several days before it failed last month.

Gesture to Muslims Algiers — In a gesture of ap-peasement, Algeria's President

Liamine Zeroual appointed four members of moderate Muslim groups to his first new government since he was elected in November. Mr Zeroual, who retains the defence portfolio, named a new foreign minister, Ahmed Attaf, but kept the team overseeing mar-AP, Reuter ket reforms.

Briton drops appeal

Singapore - John Martin Scripps, the Briton sentenced to death for the gruesome murder of a South African tourist last year, has dropped his appeal, to be heard on Monday. "He has written with his own hand to the prison authorities that he does not wish to pursue the appeal, said his lawyer, who added that an appeal for clemency was still possible. Reuter

Italian deadlock

Rome - Talks between the leaders of Italy's opposing blocs on ways out of the country's political impasse broke down, and Silvio Berlusconi, leader of the centre-right Freedom Alliance coalition, said prospects were growing for an early general

Prisoners take over

Izmir - Left-wing inmates in Turkey held guards and wardens hostage at Izmir, Ankara and Istanbul prisons to protest against the killing of three prisoners in a riot at an Istanbul jail a day earlier. Inmates at Izmir s Buca prison, a hotbed of unrest in the past year, met their lawyers and said they would end the rebellion if the justice ministry promised to improve prison

Wedded to tradition

New Delhi - Falling in love is Western fantasy which usu ally evaporates before the first child is born, according to Singapore's elder statesman, Lce Kuan Yew. Speaking to Indian businessmen about the possible impact of economic liberalisation, he said Indian culture could withstand unwelcome foreign influences. Like Indians. he favoured arranged marriages, saying amid repeated ap-plause: "I am a product of an arranged marriage." Reuser

was reportedly doubled to £2m moved from the country. Howard replied: "I can't say and abuse these tradition char-Asked if Dominica — a tracts. Replying to these anything about that. We are very this year and in 1997. grateful to Dominica for agree-In Britain, the expulsion or- protests, Mr Howard said, "We Mr Howard is pushing for the ple whose main crop, bananas, der was criticised by human intend to maintain our reputa- government to adopt tighter

PHII DAVISON

Most folks on the little Caribbean island of Dominica couldn't care less about the possible arrival of the Saudi dissident Mohammed al-Masari. They are more concerned with next month's carnival, the highbelieve makes them more than just a "banana republic".

Latin America Correspondent

Some residents of the strongfear that Mr Masari's presence could lead to a surge of Muslim fundamentalism and say the Prime Minister, Edison battle by fax machine against the Saudi royal family, which he granting Mr Masari asylum. Mr James categorically de-

ceived a financial quid pro quo from Britain in return for accepting the dissident. Speaking to reporters in the capital, Roseau, however, he indicated that, as with almost every issue in Dominica, bananas were a factor. The fact that Britain is

Dominica's main market for ba-

was quoted as saying. "Most people here are not Catholic island, however, bothered about this man. It's not a subject that's being talked about on the street," said Rashid Osman, editor of the island's weekly newspaper, the New Chronicle. "Hardly anyone believes he'll end up coming here, anyway. Here, bananas is

straight day, that he had re- talking about the big banana

Mr Osman was referring to a recent coup by Dominica and its fellow banana-exporting partners on the other Windward Islands. The islands, in a joint venture with Dublin-based Fyffes, bought over the marketing of their own bananas light of their year, and a recent nanas was reason enough, in it-from the Geest company, which banana marketing deal they self, for granting London's had shipped their crop for 40 request to accept Mr Masari, he

The deal, largely pushed by Mr James, was seen as a major breakthrough for the Windward Islands - Dominica, St Lucia, St Vincent and Grenada by giving them total control for the first time over their key crop.

Mr Osman, a Guyanese brought up as a Muslim but now a Catholic, said some Domini-cans, including the opposition

leader, Brian Alleyne, have expressed concern that Mr Masari could initiate a wave of Muslim fundamentalism on the 290square-mile island, which lies between Martinique and Guadeloupe. He estimated there may be up to 100 Muslims, all blacks and relatively recent converts, reflecting a similar

The fact that there are few Muslims on the islands was one of the reasons cited by Mr Masari in London for describing Dominica as "inappropriate" for his exile. There is no mosque on the island. Muslims tend to congregate at a shop called the Muslim Store on the

capital's Great George Street,

run by a Dominican called Mo-

hammed Abdullah Youssuf Ali.

movement among blacks in the

US and elsewhere.

and change their names, but they know less about Islam than I do." Dame Eugenia reiterated that she and most Dominicans did not think Mr Masari would

ever show up.
The New Chronicle yesterday carried only a short piece on Mr Masari in a corner of the front page, based on information from London and including no

local reaction.

plication to be reviewed." Mr Masari has 10 days after the signing of the expulsion order in which to appeal.

long time — months or even

years — it takes for their ap-

Killing of top Hamas bomber cheers Israel

PATRICK COCKBURN

The most skilled Palestinian bomb-maker - "the Engineer", who planned a series of devastating suicide attacks against Israeli targets over the last two years - was killed yesterday in Beit Lahiya refugee camp, ac-cording to the Islamic militant organisation Hamas, to which

Yahya Ayyash was long hunt-ed by Israeli agents as the father of the suicide bombing cam-paign that killed 70 Israelis and wounded another 250 in 1994-95. As the Koran was recited in mourning for his death may turn out to be part of the over loudspeakers in mosques across Gaza, Hamas accused Israeli agents of assassinating attacks. Former Shin Bet offihim and promised to carry out revenge attacks.

Accounts of how Mr Ayyash died differed yesterday evening. News of his killing first came on Israeli radio, which reported that he had died in a bomb blast in the Jabaliya refugee camp in the north of the Gaza strip, which is under the control of the Palestinian Authority. But journalists were unable to find the site of the explosion or discover any witnesses. A senior Palestinian security official was quoted by Israeli television last night as saying that Mr Ayyash was killed by a bomb inside his mobile phone.

Later reports said Mr Ayyash died in the Beit Lahiya camp just to the north of Jabeliya, and that he was shot dead with his wife. identify the site of the shooting. although Hamas confirmed that he was dead. According to one source in Gaza, his body was removed by Mohammed Dahlan,

a senior security official. Israel was immediately jubilant about reports of Ayyash's death. Born in the village of Rafat just inside the western

studied chemistry at Bir Zeit University, north of Jerusalem. Wanted by Israel since 1992, he had repeatedly eluded capture, but was reported recently to be living in Gaza. Yaakov Perry, the former head of the Shin Bet internal security agency, said yes-terday: "I can say with satisfaction that the Engineer has ended his operations."

In October Fathi Shkaki, the leader of Islamic Jihad, the other Islamic militant organisation which carried out suicide bombings, was assassinated in Malta, almost certainly by Israeli agents. The death of Ayyash same Israeli campaign to eliminate the leaders of the suicide cials were openly eager to claim a success yesterday in order to restore their reputation, which was badly damaged by their failure to prevent the murder of

boundary of the West Bank, he Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, on 4 November. As Ayyash's death was announced on mosque loudspeakers in Beit Lahiya, hundreds of Palestinians poured into the streets in panic as police cars and ambulances rushed to the scene. A speaker at one mosque said: "Hamas is saying that our hero, the hero of all the

bombings, is a martyr."

Long before reports of the death of Ayyash, Hamas officials were divided about the gains to be made by continuing the bombing campaign. It faces se-vere repression by Israel and the security forces of Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the PLO, in Gaza and in the West Bank towns now under his control. Several thousand Hamas sup-porters are detained by Israel. There have also been grow-

ing doubts among Palestinians

about what the bombing cam-

paign is meant to achieve.

Golan hopes rise as negotiators agree to meet again

CAROL GIACOMO

Washington --- Israeli and Syrian negotiators prepared to wrap up three days of US-mediated talks yesterday and agreed to meet again after next week's round of Middle-East shuttle diplomacy by Warren Christopher, the Secretary of

"I think there is an understanding that the talks should Local people were unable to continue past Friday but not immediately ... There is a general understanding that the talks should continue after the secretary's visit," an Israeli official said as the negotiators wound up discussions at the secluded Wye Plantation conference cen-

tre in Maryland. Mr Christopher joined the urged him to press Israel to informal contacts over the New discussions for a few hours on withdraw completely from the Year holiday weekend. Formal ments.

Thursday and stayed for dinner, but his spokesman, Nicholas Burns, played down expecta
Golan Heights, captured by Israel during the Six-Day War in 1967. "We hope that America's tions of a breakthrough, saying no one thinks "peace is around the corner". But yesterday, comments

emerging from Israel continued to be upbeat, with Jerusalem hailing a new mood in negotiations with Damascus. Yossi Beilin, a cabinet minister, told Israeli radio: "I would say that something very impor-tant has happened recently be-

have been able, after four years, to really talk for the first time. "This discussion, because of its openness, could lead to

Syria welcomed the partici-

pation of Mr Christopher, but

tween Israel and Syria in that we

greater involvement in the current [Syrian-Israeli] talks would lead to a more effective US role in pressuring Israel to respond to the requirements of peace," the official daily newspaper Al-Thawra said.

Mr Christopher leaves Washington on Monday for a meeting in Paris of donors to the Palestinian Authority, then travels to Jerusalem on Wednesday and Damascus on Thursday. The discussions in Maryland

were the second set of Syrian-Israeli talks in as many weeks. talks. But negotiations have Working under a news blackout, the negotiators recessed the first round of formal talks on 29 December but continued

on Wednesday. Last week's round - the first

direct Israeli-Syrian negotiations in six months - proved encouraging, and there have since been a number of positive comments from both sides, adding to a sense of optimism about a possible deal this year.

Officials, however, have played down prospects for a dramatic announcement at the conclusion of this round.

Mr Christopher persuaded Israeli and Syrian leaders during his last shuttle mission in December to resume their been stuck over Syria's insistence on a full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, and Israel's demands for normal



international



Bowing out: Tomiichl Murayama walks to the cabinet room at his official residence near Tokyo for his last meeting as prime minister before announcing his resignation

Dithering Japanese PM resigns

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

The Japanese left's brief grip on power came to an end yesterday with the sudden resignation of the Prime Minister, Tomiichi Murayama. His indecisiveness in the face of a series of disasters inspired record levels of apathy and disillusionment

among voters.
Two-and-a-half years after the defeat of the Liberal Democratic Party in elections that promised a decisive change in Japanese politics, the new prime minister is almost certain to be Ryutaro Hashimoto, trade and industry minister and leader of the LDP.

The timing of Mr Muravama's announcement was unexpected, but his demise had long

did. He came to power 18 months ago, in an unlikely coalition between his Social Democratic Party (SDP), and two of its ideological opponents - the LDP and the small splinter group Sakigake (New Harbinger).

After 38 years of unbroken majority rule, the LDP had lost its majority in 1993, but remained the biggest party. Mr Murayama's acceptance of the premiership was a transparent act of political opportunism that forced the humiliating renunciation of most of his party's socialist principles.

He presided over one of the most turbulent and troubled periods in post-war Japanese history, and a series of crises including the Kobe earthquake. been predicted and few ex- the gas attack on the Tokyo subese economy - were met with indecision. Mr Murayama's one determined act - the passing of resolution apologising for Japanese aggression on the 50th anniversary of the Second World War - was undermined by LDP members of his own

"I have decided to resign today," a somewhat relievedlooking Mr Murayama, 71, told a televised news conference yesterday, admitting that he had "used up all my strength".

"I thought it was time to renew the people in government and make a fresh start in the new year," he said. The announcement caused little more than superficial sur-

prise, and the Tokyo Stock Exchange actually rose slightly on the news.

most certainly be taken next week by Mr Hashimoto, whose assertive manner and confident nationalism have earned him a reputation as one of the most colourful and popular politicians in the country.

A dry, carefully groomed 58year-old, with a fancied resemblance to Elvis Presley, Mr Hashimoto has been easily the strongest of the coalition leaders since his election to the LDP presidency in September. Last spring, he won huge domestic popularity for his combative refusal to yield to US demands to open up the Japanese automobile market.

His nationalism and assurance in international negotiations have given anxious pause to foreign diplomats - on VJ-Day, as Mr Murayama was trying to convince the world of his

country's contrition for wartime atrocities, Mr Hashimoto was one of nine cabinet ministers who defied their prime minister's orders by attending services at a nationalist shrine to war

But many will welcome the el-The next general election evation of the charismatic Mr will be the first to be held un-Hashimoto, who has cultivated an image of himself as a decisive, straight-talking politician along Western lines, in contrast to the anonymous and diplomatically inept leaders represented by Mr Murayama.

How far he will be able to sustain this image is open to doubt. Since his election to the party presidency, he has adopted a much lower profile, and concentrated on cultivating more traditional members in his own party, who regard him as an arrogant upstart.

As well as securing their support. Mr Hashimoto must yield enough to the SDP to hold together the fragile alliance, at least until he can be confident of the LDP's chances at the

der a new system, incorporating proportional representation in an attempt to reduce political corruption, a cause of deep uncertainty and concern to Japanese politicians. One explanation for Mr Mu-

rayama's relative longevity as leader was that nobody else in the government was prepared to take on the premiership. As the eighth Japanese prime

minister in seven years, Mr Hashimoto may discover that he has been handed a poison

Howard in fresh talks on hostages

TIM MCGIRK New Delhi

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, was briefed by his Indian counterpart yesterday on the plight of two Britons who, along with an American and a German, have been held captive for more than six months by

Kashmiri rebels. Mr Howard refused to reveal what S B Chavan had told him about New Delhi's efforts to free the two Britons, Keith Mangan, 33, an electrician from Tooting, and Paul Wells, 23, a Nottingham student, who were taken hostage while trekking in the Himalayas last summer. You'll understand that I can't comment. The hostages' lives are at stake," he said.

When the westerners were first seized by Al-Faran rebels, the Home Secretary secretly sent several Scotland Yard antiterrorist experts and hostage negotiators to India to help to secure their freedom. Indian authorities ruled out any military operation to rescue the hostages, arguing it might endanger the Westerners lives.

During his South Asia tour, Mr Howard said he would also raise the issue of the hostages during talks with Pakistani officials in Islamabad. Pakistan gives diplomatic and moral support to the armed insurgents, who have been leading a six-year Muslim uprising against Indian security forces in Kashmir. India claims that Pakistani intelligence is behind the Al-Faran band of kidnappers but Islamabad denies this.

The hostages, disguised in Kashmiri woollen ponchos and escorted by Al-Faran gunmen. were reportedly seen last on 23 December by villagers in the Himalayan foothills of southern Kashmir. The British High Commission in New Delhi was said to have sent Christmas gifts from the hostages' relatives to Kashmir in the hope that sympathetic Muslims might pass them on to the captives.

It is not known whether the hostages received the presents, and any hope of an early negotiated release seems slim. India refuses to agree to the kidnappers' main demand - that 15 Kashmir militants held in Indian jails be freed, in exchange for the hostages' lives. Al-Faran broke off contact with Indian negotiators in November and officially, no words have been exchanged since then.

Aside from the hostage crisis. Mr Howard took advantage of his Indian visit to push his tougher line on British immigration. He spent several hours with British consular officers in New Delhi, watching them sort through the thousands of bustling Indians demanding visas. "I've heen shown evidence as to the extraordinary lengths to which people will go to gain entry to my country illegally," he said. "They forge passports, visas, and make the most sophisticated attempts to

Mr Howard contended that the Tory government's new



Michael Howard: 'Lives at stake' if silence is broken

policy will help to weed out illegal immigrants trying to trick their way into Britain, but will not restrict genuine cases. "The same people who are entitled to come to Britain today will be allowed after the Bill goes into effect," he said. Few foreigners who sought entry to Britain for political asylum were legitimate, he said.

Many Sikh militants have been given political asylum in Britain to escape alleged Indian government persecution in Punjab. Officials told Mr Howard that calm and stability had been restored in the region, but human rights monitors say Punjabi police continue to target dissidents.

pected him to last as long as he way and the foundering Japan-Mr Murayama's place will al-AN EXTRA SPECIAL £199 To Florida For CHILDREN THIS SUMMER. Right now you can book your child on a holiday to Florida for only £199° anytime throughout the summer season (including school holidays). There are also many reduced prices for second children and adult prices start from only £349°. Choose from single centre, two centre, drive and stay, cruises and flydrives. EXTRA SPECIAL features to Florida include Pre-bookable Duty Free and Pre-bookable Flight Seats. FLIGHTS FROM 10 U.K. AIRPORTS PICK UP AN AIRTOURS FLORIDA BROCHURE FROM LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL **01235 824428** Teletexi *Airtours*

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Rifkind visit to sound out Hong Kong's mood STEPHEN VINES demand that he be told to

Hong Kong

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, arrives in Hong Kong this evening with few illusions of securing any key agreements with China when he moves on

to Peking later in the week. Although Sino-British relations moved from cold to tepid following the October visit to London by China's foreign min-ister. Qian Qichen, both sides are cautious about how to proceed after a six-year period in which relations have been strained following the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre.

Mr Rifkind is "not going to Peking with expectations of great breakthroughs", said a British official. "There's no bag of sweets ready to be given out." The visit has been prefaced

with the usual flurry of speculation about whether Britain is ready to sacrifice the colony's interests in favour of its longerterm relationship with China and whether this means a return

to the old days of kowtowing.
Equally predictably there has been a rash of reports about how China will insist that the Governor, Chris Patten, has no role to play in the ceremonies to mark the handover of power next year and there have been other stories about China's put it.

cease raising issues that the Chinese government does not wish to discuss, such as political reform and human rights.

One official involved in preparations for the talks dismissed all this as "low-level chitchat". However, there is little doubt that China's strategy is to isolate the Governor and seek a more cooperative response from the Foreign Office, which has traditionally been more sensitive to China's views.

In a new year message, Lu Ping, the most senior Chinese official handling Hong Kong af-fairs, said that Britain was showing a more co-operative attitude these days and expressed the hope "that this commitment [to co-operation] will not be restricted to words, but put into

This is China's coded language for telling Britain it wishes to hear no more talk about political reform in Hong Kong, nor does it want the colony's government to make plans with-

out fully consulting Peking. Officials in Hong Kong are stressing the significance of Mr Rifkind coming to the colony before going to Peking, "so he can get a first-hand impression of the mood of the community before going to China", as one

hold the first-ever public meeting with legislators, a move quickly dismissed by the outspoken legislator Emily Lau. who said this was little more than a gimmick to stimulate in-

terest as "most members regard the British as irrelevant and that's why, in the past, in these closed meetings, hardly anybody turned up". In China, where Mr Rifkind will meet Mr Qian, and possi-bly the Prime Minister, Li Peng, he will want to continue discussions on the nature of the

ceremonies for the handover of power on 1 July 1997. He will again try to get China to clarify its intentions on the right of abode and citizenship criteria for Hong Kong residents after 1997. The lack of clarity on these matters is undermining confidence in the colony and helping to provoke the high level of emigration.

Among a clutch of other sues high on the British agenda is the desire to seek China's agreement for the award of a contract to build the colony's ninth container-port terminal. China objects to the contract having been awarded to a consortium headed by the British controlled conglomerate Jar-dines, which it sees as being a political ally of Mr Patten.

'puppet' heads for poll defeat

Dictator's

PHIL DAVISON Latin America Correspondent

Alvaro Arzu, a conservative 49-year-old travel agent and former mayor, is expected to be elected President of Guatemala in tomorrow's run-off ballot.

Opinion polls showed Mr Arzu, of the National Ad-vancement Party (PAN), lead-ing Alfonso Portillo of the Guatemalan Republican Front (FRG) by between 6 and 9 per cent. The winner will begin a five-year term when he takes the presidential sash from the incumbent President, Ramiro de Leon Carpio, on 14 January.

The victor's immediate priority will be to try to end a 30year guerrilla war that has divided the population and led to widespread human rights abuses. He will also aim to halt a wave of kidnappings and a general sense of insecurity.

Mr Portillo, a 44-year-old economist and lawyer, is wide-ly seen as a "front man" for his party's leader, General Efrain Rios Montt, the former military dictator notorious for his 'scorched earth" policy against Indian villages he blamed for hiding left-wing guerrillas in the Eighties. He was barred from running himself.

Mr Arzu, twice mayor of Guatemala City, easily defeated Mr Portillo and 17 other can-didates in the first round on 12 November but fell short of the 50 per cent needed to avoid a run-off. Mr Arzu scored 36 per cent to Mr Portillo's 22 per cent.

Mr Arzu was reckoned to have won a heated TV debate this week, in which each man as-sailed the other's character. Mr Arzu said Mr Portillo had killed someone while in exile in Mexico; Mr Portillo said he had done so in self-defence.

Perhaps because both candidates are conservative and there is little to choose between their policies, half of Guatemala's 3.7 million voters did not take part in the last poll. A higher turnout this time, with an estimated 15 per cent of voters still undecided yesterday, could give Mr Portillo the chance of an

EU officials on fraud charges colleague. Mr Tzoanos's wife was also arrested. It is the first time police from an EU member state have However, the tourism scandal dates back to 1990, and critics SARAH HELM

Two European Commission officials have been arrested by Belgian police, charged with masterminding a tourism fraud. t was announced yesterday.

The officials are accused of siphoning off hundreds of thouands of pounds of European Union money which should have been spent on tourism projects, and paying bribes to secure contracts to front companies proposing spurious tourism projects in several countries across Europe.

George Tzoanos, the Greek tourism unit, is accused of run-

arrested EU officials on fraud charges, and the controversy will again cast light on corruption vithin the European institutions. Public criticism of waste and fraud involving the EU budget erupted last year when its spending watchdog said that more than 4 per cent of the annual budget could not be properly accounted for. Commission spokesmen in-

sisted yesterday that the firm action taken over the alleged tourism fraud, and the organihead of the Commission's sation's full co-operation with tourism unit, is accused of tun-ning the fraud along with Pus-cal Chatillon, a French made to stop the rot.

- particularly within the European Parliament - believe the Commission was slow to act.
Immunity from prosecution.

granted to all EU officials, was only lifted last year in the case of the two men charged, when they were suspended. It is understood that Mr Tzoanos and Mr Chatillon left Belgium once their immunity from prosecution was lifted last year and were arrested when they attempted to re-enter the country.

The charges relate to deals first set up in 1990 between the Commission's European tourism directorate and companies trying to secure tenders for projects associated with The European Year of Tourism. Kozyrev resignation: Communist success in parliamentary elections makes position of liberal Foreign Minister untenable

The West has lost a good friend in the Kremlin

TONY BARBER Europe Editor

Andrei Kozyrev's departure as Foreign Minister removes one of the leading pro-Western voices from the Russian government and, without provoking a radical change in Kremlin policies, may herald a subtle shift to a more assertive line.

In particular, the West may find that Russia takes a stronger stance on issues such as arms control treaties and Nato's proposed expansion into central and eastern Europe.

Under Russia's constitution. the President picks the Foreign Minister and holds primary responsibility for the direction of foreign policy. Major policy changes are therefore unlikely. since Mr Kozyrev's successor cannot stray too far from the wishes of President Boris

However, some hardline ministers may try to exploit Mr Kozyrev's removal to press for a more robust anti-Western policy. Only last Thursday the Defence Minister, Pavel Grachev, warned the West that Nato's expansion might cause Russia to rethink its approach to short-range nuclear arms and to deploy a new range of weapons "consistent with new real threats". Mr Grachev has also said that Moscow may review its adherence to the Start-1 and Start-2 treaties on limiting intercontinental nuclear weapons.

One obvious candidate to succeed Mr Kozvrev is Vladimir Lukin, a former ambassador to Washington, chairman of parliament's foreign affairs com-mittee and leader of the liberal Yabloko political movement.

Though no hardliner, Mr Lukin has often accused Mr Kozyrev of presiding over a de-cline in the international Mr Kozyrev was allowing Nato prestige of Russia, and if cho- to set the pace of events in for-



Looking West: Although Andrei Kozyrev's enthusiasm for 'friends' in Nato cooled in recent years, he still advocated a constructive partnership

pro-Western face to the world. Others tipped to replace Mr Kozyrev include two career diplomats. Vitaly Churkin and Igor Ivanov, and Mr Yeltsin's chief foreign policy adviser, Dmitri Ryurikov. The first two men are closely identified with Mr Kozyrev's policies, but Mr Ryurikov is thought to have viewed Mr Kozyrev as too con-

ciliatory to the West. Communists and nationalists had long sought Mr Kozyrev's dismissal on the grounds that his policies were excessively pro-Western and not geared to the vigorous promotion of Russian

doing too little to prevent the was just as "threatening" to Atlantic alliance's expansion eastwards.

In fact, whereas Mr Kozyrev was an enthusiastic advocate of Russia's integration with the West in 1991 and 1992, he changed his tune somewhat in the next three years. Aligning himself with a group

of "pragmatic nationalists", he continued to develop a constructive partnership with the West but contended that Russia had its own distinctive traditions and interests and should drive a hard bargain when

Where he parted company from the Communist and nationalist opposition was in his sen he might present less of a mer Yugoslavia and that he was refusal to accept that the West

Moscow as it had been in Cold War times.

In a Russian television interview on 27 December, he condemned his critics for "a wish to go over in one way or another to the concept of an enemy, whether in respect of Nato or someone else in the West" and declared firmly that

Nato is not an enemy". Like virtually all Russian politicians. Mr Kozyrev opposed Nato's plans to embrace countries that once belonged to the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact. However, he said he regarded these plans as "the mistake of a friend" rather than "a plot by an enemy". Mr Kozyrev also denounced

his opponents for "a neo-imperialist policy under cover of various kinds of demagogy towards the former Soviet republics. Many Communists and nationalists have refused to acknowledge these republics, some of which have large ethnic Russian minorities, as

fully independent states.

Mr Kozyrev is not the only relatively liberal minister to bave resigned in the aftermath of the Communist victory in last month's elections. Sergei Shakhrai, a deputy prime minister who was once one of Mr Yeltsin's most influential advisers on legal and nationality matters, left the government yesterday to take up a seat in parliament.

The Communist Party had long sought Mr Shakhrai's removal, arguing that he bore heavy responsibility for the Soviet Union's disintegration in 1991. However, Mr Shakhrai had also gradually grown distant from Mr Yeltsin, a trend underlined when he broke away from the pro-Yeltsin government party last year and formed his own party to contest the De-

cember elections. Taken together, the departures of Mr Kozyrev and Mr Shakhrai leave the government with a less reformist profile. The most important progressive politician still in the government is Anatoly Chubais, the minister in charge of economic

Russian hardliners finally get their man

HELEN WOMACK Moscow

Andrei Kozyrev, Russia's Western-leaning Foreign Minister. resigned yesterday. His depar-ture had been widely predicted since the Communists, who accused him of selling out Moscow's interests, won the parliamentary elections in

December. Interfax news agency quoted sources close to Mr Kozyrev as saying he had sent a letter of resignation to President Boris Yeltsin. The minister said in his letter that he had decided to represent the voters of Murmansk, who elected him to a seat in the State Duma in the recent parliamentary elections.

The presidential press service said Mr Yeltsin had issued a de-cree releasing Mr Kozyrev. No successor was immediately named.

Moscow hastened to assure the world it would maintain a steady foreign policy. "Western countries should not regard the resignation of Andrei Kozyrev from the post of Foreign Minister as any kind of threat or as an indication of change in Russia's foreign policy," said Mr Yeltsin's spokesman, Sergei Medvedev.

In the past, Russian cabinet ministers have lost their jobs only to be reinstated as part of the elaborate political game here. But this is most unlikely to happen in the case of Mr Kozyrcv, who has been under pressure for months. Following the election, Mr Yeltsin must make some sacrifices in order to keep his reformist Prime Minister, Viktor Chemomyrdin, and the key economic team around him.

Mr Kozyrev, relatively young at 44, had served Mr Yeltsin loyally since he became President in 1991. Pro-Western at heart, the Foreign Minister toughened his rhetoric to appease Communists and nationalists who hegan gaining influence

But this was insufficient for the hardliners who saw him, in practice, co-operating with the West over such issues as bringing peace to the former

Last autumn, Mr Yeltsin made clear he would not besi-tate to use Mr Kozyrev as a scapegoat if his own political survival depended on it. On the eve of an important presidential visit to France and the United States, he publicly humiliated the Foreign Minister by saying his job was on the line, only to reprieve him and take him on the trip at the last

minute. Mr Kozyrev saw the writing on the wall and stood in the parliamentary poll. Under the Russian political system, a deputy cannot also be a minister. Mr Kozyrev saw Mr Yeltsin a few days ago and evidently realised he had no hope of keeping his job at the Foreign Ministry.

Pressure from the hardliners clearly brought about Mr Kozyrev's downfall. But it is by no means certain Mr Yeltsin will choose a new foreign minister from the ranks of the Communists, now the biggest party in parliament, far less from the nationalists loyal to Vladimir Zhirinovsky, who form the third largest group in the Duma. Mr Zhirinovsky has put himself forward for the post, however.

The favourite for the job. Vladimir Lukin. comes from the liberal Yabloko grouping, whose support the government party. Our Home is Russia, is trying to win in order to keep the Communists and national

ists at bay. Yesterday Mr Lukin, a former ambassador to the United States, welcomed Mr Kozyrev's resignation, saying it was a necessary development.

End of Cold War leaves UK as Europe's nuclear store

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY

Britain now has more nuclear weapons on its territory than any European state apart from Russia, following confirmation by Ukrainian officials yesterday that 90 per cent of the warheads on their soil had been returned to Russia, heir to the former Soviet Union.

But in spite of that, the number of nuclear weapons in Europe has reduced dramatically in the past decade and arms control experts yesterday hailed the return of the Ukrainian weapons to Russia as a great.

Defence ministers from the United States, Russia and Ukraine watched yesterday as a nuclear missile silo was blown up at the military base of Pervomaisk, 180 miles south of Kiev, in a ceremony underlining the success of the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (Start), in spite of the disintegration of the Soviet Union

The Ukrainian Defence Minthe destruction of the underground silo – ance home to six SS-19 Stiletto intercontinental hallistic missiles, each able to carry six nuclear warheads for fewer than Britain or France. 7,000 miles – as an "important political event". The ceremony and 66 from Kazakhstan have concluded a two-day visit to Ukraine by the US Defence Ukraine's 176 missiles were to be destroyed in situ

General Pavel Grachev. The presence of defence ministers from two superpowers was highly significant. General Grachev had blown up a US missile silo in October

But the ceremony was delayed four hours after poor weather meant that the ministers' aircraft had to be diverted to an airfield farther from the missile site. The plane slid off the icy runway on landing, but no one was hurt.

Following the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991, the spectre of several nuclear-armed states arose. The Lisbon protocol of 1992 committed the former Soviet republics where nuclear weapons were based -Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan - to returning them to

Ukraine, a country with about the same population as Britain, had 176 intercontinental ballistic missiles on its territory when the Soviet Union disintegrated. These could carister, Velery Shmarov, described ry up to 1,200 warheads. Yesterday's announcement that 90 per cent of the warheads had been returned to Russia would leave Ukraine with about 120~

All the 18 missiles in Belarus been returned to Russia.

Secretary, William Perry, and the greatest worry, because the Russian Defence Minister. Ukraine was believed to be the only country with the necessary expertise to maintain a working nuclear arsenal.

"It's a remarkable achievement," said Colonel Terry Taylor of the London-based International institute for Strategic Studies. "There was a great deal of tension when the Soviet Union broke up in 1991

- it's a great success story. "Three states that could have been nuclear states are now non-nuclear states, and they have acceded to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty".

Britain and the US have provided financial and technical help to disarm the former Soviet republics, including the provision of specially designed rail cars and advice on nuclear weapons security.

Although the Soviet Strategic Rocket Forces - who were responsible for nuclear missiles - were among the most efficient branches of the Soviet military, they suffered, like the rest, when the Soviet Union

Furthermore, the Soviet Union had never planned to withdraw its missiles from Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan. The warheads have been withdrawn with help from the West, although the larger missiles are having because they are difficult to

The MoD yesterday refused to confirm the exact number of warheads still held in Britain. "We've always kept the number of warheads secret," said a department spokesman. The US and Russian nuclear stockpiles have been made public under the Start nuclear weapons treaty. Britain and France, which have not entered into any nuclear disarmament treaties, have kept their nuclear arsenals under wraps.

However, informed estimates put the number of British warheads - including those for the new Trident submarinelaunched missiles, first deployed a year ago, and the Polaris missiles they are replacing, free-fall bombs and nuclear depthcharges - at fewer than 300. Another 90 US nuclear warheads are believed to be on British soil, as against 1,500 a decade ago. That puts Britain just ahead of France and Ukraine.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) said yesterday France could have up to 500 nuclear warheads, although it probably has fewer. The US is also estimated to have 245 warheads left in Germany, 40 in Italy and 10 each in Belgium. the Netherlands and Greece. Ten years ago the figures were nearly 4,000 for Germany, 550 for Italy and 164 for Greece.

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Papandreou drama darkens as Mimi falls ill with hepatitis B into a separate room on the first by the end of this month at the

ANDREW GUMBEL

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The hospital melodrama surrounding Andreas Papandreou, Greece's ailing prime minister, took on a macabre new twist yesterday when his 40-year-old wife, Dimitra "Mimi" Liana, was found to be suffering from hepatitis B and ordered to leave the bedside she has faithfully attended for the past six weeks.

An official builetin said that the prime minister's wife had been diagnosed at the initial stages of the disease and should recover within four to eight weeks. Ms Liana was moved

Athens, where her husband has Democracy Party has tabled a been treated for lung and kidney failure since 20 November.

Ms Liana's incapacitation is likely only to intensify the battle to find a successor to Mr Papandreou, because she was one of the few key members of his retinue who refused to countenance his resignation, even though he is barely conscious and unlikely ever to return to

public life. Dissidents inside Mr Papandreou's socialist party, Pasok. have demanded a replacement

floor of the Onassis clinic in latest, while the opposition New censure motion in parliament in an effort to pull the country out of its political impasse.

Much speculation focused yesterday on the cause of Ms Liana's illness, a particularly virulent form of hepatitis, contracted, like HIV, from blood, sperm or other bodily fluids. The most common causes are sexual intercourse or sharing of

needles for drug abuse. Government sources suggested Ms Liana could have been infected by acupuncture or



ease the succession

a special cell rejuvenation treatment. But Greece's tabloid editors, who have published old photos of her in sexually compromising positions, are unlikely to waste much time.

Mostar tense after second Croat attack on Muslims

NICHOLAS DOUGHTY and JONATHAN CLAYTON

Mostar — The shooting of two Muslim policemen sent ethnic tension soaring in the divided city of Mostar yesterday and a European Union administrator appealed for calm, saying dialogue, not Nato intervention,

"It would be a lie if I said I had everything under control but I hope that serious people will understand how dangerous the situation is," said Hans Koschnick, the EU administrator in Mostar, south Bosnia. "Do not throw oil on the fire.

We are trying to calm things down but we are not in a good situation," he said. He was speaking after a bail of bullets from the Croat sec-

tor of the city hit a Muslim police car on Thursday night. seriously wounding two officers inside. One was hit in the stomach, the other in the leg. Mr Koschnick, who leads an

EU administration set up in 1994 after a Croat-Muslim war devastated the historic city, said the solution to Mostar's problems had to be civilian and not imposed by the Nato-led Bosnian peace implementation force (I-For).

"There is no need to involve I-For in the situation in Mostar. People must get together in a democratic way and by talking build understanding for the future," he said.

The EU has been trying to form a joint administration uniting the Muslim and Croat communities, who face each other across a "confrontation line". It also wants to start reconstruction of Mostar, once one of Yugoslavia's top tourist attractions.

But tensions have risen since Bosnian Croat police shot dead a Muslim youth on New Year's Day, an incident which Mr Koschnick described as murder or manslaughter. "I do not consider it to have been an accident " he said

A series of less serious incidents culminated in Thursday's after the Croatian President,



Bald facts: Two members of the US Army in Tuzia shaving each other's heads yesterday Photograph: Karsten Thickler/AP

shooting on the Bulevar, a once-elegant boulevard now in ruins which forms part of the confrontation line.

Police run by the Western European Union (WEU), the EU's defence arm, were investigating the case of the policemen. "Thank God one of them at least is no longer in danger of losing his life." said Mr Koschnick, a former mayor of

"The shots clearly came from the west [Croat] side. Now it must be established who fired them," he said, adding that 10 to 12 rounds had peppered the

Franjo Tudjman, met his Bosnian counterpart, Alija Izetbegovic, in Sarajevo for talks on a Croat-Muslim federation created in 1994. The US-brokered federation, to share rule in Bosnia with a Serb republic, has been riven with divisions, most

of all in Mostar. The EU chief of staff, Sir Martin Garrod, also expressed his concern to the Croat side yesterday over another flashpoint, a hydro-electric dam above the town which almost burst before the new year, sending floods sweeping down-

ar. Richard Edgington, a captain in the Shooting occurred hours in the WEU police, said his force was monitoring repairs on the monitor trouble while they

dam which Bosnian Croats were tackle the difficult task of credoing without Muslim approval.

EU-brokered talks on the lice force for the town. ■ Sarajevo (Reuter) - Nato damaged dam have become said yesterday that its troops bogged down in recriminations between the two communities. fired their first shots in anger of Any unilateral work on a dam the 17-day-old Bosnia peace supposed to be jointly conmission after a gunman woundtrolled could be provocative ed an Italian soldier in Sarajevo in the tinder-dry political on Thursday. "Four to five rounds of 5.66 mm rifle rounds atmosphere. were returned," said an 1-For spokesman, Lieutenant-The EU has limited powers in Mostar, once best known for spokesman, Colonel Mark Rayner, in its 16th-century Ottoman Turk-

the Neretva river after a Croa-

no powers of arrest and can only

tian tank bombardment.

ish bridge, which collapsed into Col Rayner said Nato troops believed they had not killed the The WEU runs a force of 180 gunman, who attacked the Italpolice in the town. But they have ian sentry guarding a base in the Serb-held suburb of Vogosca, north of the city centre.

ating a united Croat-Muslim po-

Keep your hair on with the phoenix tail fish

It is a common complaint among foreigners living in Peking that the bitter, dry winters poses a trichological chal-lenge. Male or female, one's hair falls out in handfuls. Expats lament as their curls disappear down the plughole. Theories abound about what is to blame: could it be the heavy smog of coal dust in the air, or the overpowering central heating? Or too much monosodium glutamate? More to the point, as this is a country with a booming industry in hair tonics, have the Chinese herbal magicians come up with any effective potions to hold this encroaching haldness at bay?

At the Artistic Garden hair and beauty salon opposite where I live, the staff take a down-to-earth approach to the problem. According to the barber: "Perhaps foreigners cannot adjust to the climate, food and water in Peking. Also they don't get enough sleep and overwork themselves. So there's an imbalance in the body. Also in the winter it is windy here so it is easy for hair to drop off."

bald from the front and top.

For my male colleagues with receding hairlines, the idea of trying to sleep while balanced on one's forehead on a rockhard Chinese pillow is not that appealing. So the more desperate among them have been known to investigate the racks of hair stimulators on offer in China's stores. There is the Lily Hair Tonic produced by the Academy of Military Medical Sciences, or the Dabao (Great Treasure) Effective Hair Stimulator. But the hair-tonic sales sensation of China is the range of renowned 101 Formula products, invented by the leading "folk doctor" from Zhejiang, Dr Zhao Zhangguang, chairman of the Peking Zhangguang PEKING DAYS

International Institute of Hair

Regrowth and Care. The sceptical may scoff but, proven or otherwise, 1 million bottles of 101 tonic - slogan: Glad Tidings to Alopecia Patients All Over the World - were produced last year, 40 per cent of which were exported. Mail order business is strong with the US and Japan. And despite a small bottle costing £9, 101 has been tried by millions of Chinese. Above Dr Zhao's desk hangs a message of encouragement from the Prime Minister himself, Li Peng, (who suffers from a modest widow's peak de-

Li Peng: 101 user with a

archangelica root, wolfberry

fruit, salvia officinalis, etc")

modest widow's peak

spite his allegiance to 101). At 52, Dr Zhao boasts a

He had an interesting theory. "The hair at the back of the skull is thicker than hair at the top. especially for Chinese, because the pillows the Chinese use are harder," he said, "During the night the hard pillow can massage the back of your neck and head. That's why Chinese people's hair is thicker at the back. That's also why most people go

thick mop of black hair that somehow manages to stand upright from his head. Does he have any advice on how to keep one's hair when all around are brushing it out in sinkfuls? "Eating sesame seeds, walnuts and seaweed is good for the hair," he said. "Wash your hair once a week at most. though there are exceptions, like coal-miners. I only wash my hair every 10 days, when it starts to feel itchy, and I use 101B usually twice a month. That's the product to use before one starts going bald." The most recent addition to ingredients: gingseng, angelica,

which must be applied twice daily to the balding areas, leaving one smelling like some exotic liqueur. It claims an 83 per cent effectiveness rate. 101 has certainly proved

ree: dea

effective for Mr Zhao: "I got support from the government it is very easy for me to earn several hundred millions" of yuan. Another Peking resident. Li Xiaohua, who was a sales agent for 101, was China's first Ferrari owner.

At the opposition Dabao fac-tory, output of its Hair Stimulator is more modest at 120,000 bottles last year, 80 per cent of which was exported. Xu Yong, an engineer, said more than 30 types of Chinese herbs were in-cluded in the Dabao tonic. His own trichological epiphany came on a business trip to Brussels. "I used French shainpoo and found a lot of hair fell out. I discovered that a lot of Europeans went bald. There are two reasons. First, because Europeans eat a lot of meat, which produces a lot of fat to make the cell of the hair clog up. Secondly, some elements in the water make the hair fall out more easily. So I stopped using French shampoo and used Dabao. After one day my hair stopped falling out."

Mr Xu recommends sesame seeds and the phoenix tail fish

for warding off baldness. What, I ventured, eyeing his bushy black hair, were the employment prospects for Dabao staff members who went bald? Of the Dabao factory's 1,200 workers, only two had gone bald, said Mr Xu. "One is a transporter. At first the factory tried to cure him, but could not afford to continue giving him the product. So this worker bought a wig. The second one, who tests raw materials, he also wears a wig now. Because in an ordinary Chinese home it is not possible to wash every day. And this kind of product has to the product line is 101F ("Main be used after washing hair. It takes time and money.

Teresa Poole

Take a car and live to realite for all with the INDEPENDENT and P&O **European Ferries**

Te would like to invite you to France for a bargain break day trip with a car plus up We have teamed up with P&O European Ferries to offer readers of The Independent a range of sailings departing from either Dover or Portsmouth which may be taken until April 2, 1996.

The Dover destination is Calais and the Portsmouth

sailings will arrive at Cherbourg and Le Havre. Both towns are ideal for shopping, sight-seeing and gourmet eating and would make excellent bases for

a short stay. Day trip departures from Sunday to Fridays, until 15 February, 1996, cost £10 for a car and up to five passengers. Each extra passenger costs £1 and foot passengers also pay just £1.
Day trip departures from Portsmouth on Friday nights and Dover on Saturdays cost £20 for a car and up to five passengers. The cost of extra passengers and

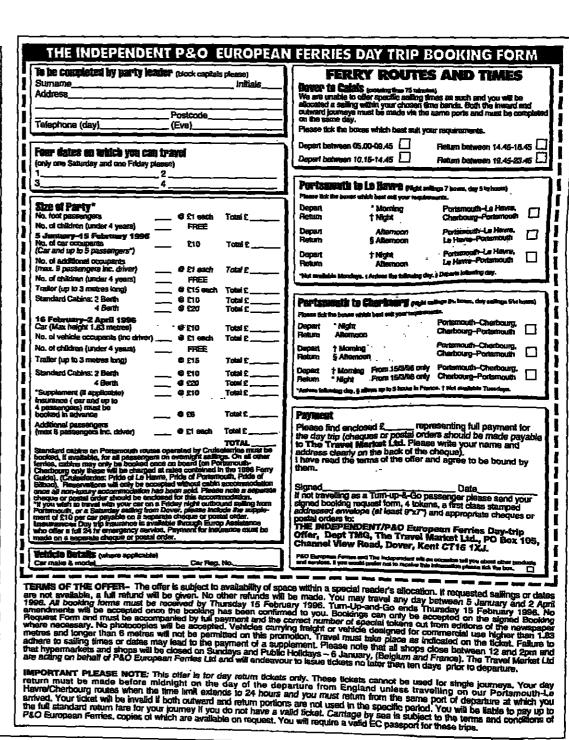
foot passengers remains unchanged.
Sailings from 16 February until 2nd April, 1996, are £10 per car and £1 per passenger or £20 per car and £1 per passenger for Saturday sailings from Dover

or Friday night sailings from Portsmouth. If you prefer to make an overnight stay in France, the cost of a 60-hour excursion is £39 for a car and up to five passengers. Extra car passengers pay £4 each. Friday night departures from Portsmouth and Saturday departures from Dover are subject to a £10 surcharge. These prices do not include accommodation. No foot passengers can be accommodated. To book your 60-hour excursion, send a sae to the address on the booking form for further details. To qualify for these bargain prices you must collect four differently numbered tokens from the six we are publishing this week. Today we are publishing token six plus the booking form.

Full terms and conditions of this daytrip offer appear on the P&O European ferries Booking Request Form. The offers are subject to availability for tickets within the The Independent's readers allocation. A day return is defined as follows: Dover/Calais route. return departure must be before midnight on the day of departure. From Portsmouth, return depar-ture must be within 24 hours of leaving the UK.







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Savings.

Republican about-face frees budget deadlock

DAVID USBORNE

Hardline Republicans made a partial retreat in the epic Washington budget struggle yesterday, opening the way for government employees who have been shut out of their offices since mid-December to return to work immediately.

Congress was working feverishly last night to approve stop-gap legislation that would restore funding for about 760,000 federal workers who have either been working without pay or staying at home since 16 December, when the latest phase of the US budget crisis erupted.

The measure, which President Bill Clinton was expected to sign without delay, would only guarantee pay for three weeks, however, until 26 January, while negotiations continue between Congress and the White House on the fundamental issue of secking ways to valance the federal budget within seven years.

Moreover, once back at their desks, many federal workers might find themselves with little to do, because the budgets for the operation of all but the most socially-sensitive federal programmes, such as mealson-wheels, would remain blocked until a final agreement is worked out.

The about-face by Republicans in the House of Representatives reflects growing concern among their leaders, notably Speaker Newt Gingrich, that the American pub-lic is losing patience with the budget squabbling and with the last-spreading consequences of the government shut-down, and that a majority of voters are blaming them, rather than the

White House, for the mess. Until Thursday, the House Republicans were adamant that they would resist restoring govemment operations while no final agreement on balancing the budget had been reached.

A first proposal by Mr Gingrich late on Thursday to pay federal workers at least until mid-March was rudely rejected by his own members at a fractious party meeting on Thursday night. He finally won support for the much shorter period, until 26

January, yesterday morning. The squirming of the Re-publicans on Capitol Hill has brought cheer, by contrast, to the White House, which believes it is still winning the public-approval battle on the budget issue. Any suggestion that Mr Gingrich is losing control of his own rank-and-file only bolsters President Clinton's confidence.

But Mr Gingrich yesterday urged the President to take advantage of the temporary end of the crisis by coming forward with new proposals finally to ensure that America can achieve a zero deficit by 2002. "The challenge is now for Bill Clinton. The burden is now on his desk and his shoulders," he said.

Another round of negotiations on the balanced budget was due to start last night. There is still little to suggest, however, that the two sides will be able quickly to close the gap between their positions, leaving open the possibility that the government will be forced only to close down again on the 26th, which is three days after the President delivers this year's State of the Union address to

While Mr Clinton has pledged to co-operate in finding ways to balance the budget within the seven years sought by the Republicans, he remains unwilling to pledge the cuts that would almost certainly be necessary in such a politically sensitive programmes as Medicaid and Medicare.

If, as was expected, the stopgap legislation is approved, normality should begin returning to government operations from today, with, for instance, the reopening to the public of national parks, zoos and museums.



Battery power: The General Motors chairman, John Smith, presents the EV1, first mass-produced electric car for the American market Photograph: Michael Caulfield/AP

Zero-emission electric car drives into smog of doubt

TIM CORNWELL Los Angeles

Was the sexy little coupé that rolled silently into the spotlights at the Greater Los Angeles Auto Show really the salvation

of the city of smog? With a flourish, General Motors unveiled what it promised as the first mass-production electric car for the American market: a two-seater christened the EV1. It will go on sale at 25 dealerships in California and Arizona this autumn.

The whisper-quiet, zeroemission car has improved the odds that electric vehicles will finally make serious inroads in the US. GM executives called it the wave of the future, with the company's chairman. John Smith, describing it as a signal of "our commitment to technological leadership and our commitment to environmental

stewardship". But there was a certain note of scepticism yesterday, particularly among observers from the often conservative US car industry, who wondered who would buy the car. It is priced at more than \$30,000 (£20,000)

electric cars, environmentalists say. The California Air Resources Board has adopted a clean air plan that counts on 70 per cent of all vehicles on the road being "zero-polluting" by 2010. But there remains the suspicion that the EV1 is little more than a fancy fig leaf offered in return for the board's recent decision to back off the first step

of that plan - a demand that by

1998, 2 per cent of all cars of-

fered for sale would be ex-

haust-free – a target car makers have insisted is impossible. GM has spent an estimated \$350m (£230m) developing the EV1. The other Big Three car makers, Chrysler and Ford, have promised their own models by 1997. The company would not say how many cars it planned to put on the market, but analysts expect the figure to

be only a few thousand. The best-selling vehicle last year, a Ford pick-up truck, sold nearly 700,000. And the biggest story of the US car market recently has been the surge in sales

of the gas-guzzling four-wheel-drive "sport-utility" vehicles. The EVI is powered by 26

California desperately needs 90 miles drops dramatically in very cold weather to about 25 miles. Targeted as a second-car for shopping or commuting, its design is based on the Impact a prototype CM first unveiled

There are tax breaks on the car's purchase price, and air quality management officials are offering a \$5,000 rebute to the first 1,200 customers in Los Angeles. The local electricity company, Southern California Edison, promised an initial network of just 18 recharging stations at shops and train stations. Owners will need an expensive recharging unit and face the cost of replacing the batteries at 25,000 to 50,000 miles.

None the less, insisted Ron nie Kun, a senior scientist with the Natural Resources Defence Council in Los Angeles. "it is great that finally after years and years of delay GM has finally made a firm commitment with

a firm date". "Its a very, very sleek and im-ressive product," he added. "In Los Angeles, the average commute to work is something like 12 miles each way. With an electric car, you don't use any juice when you idle. There are plenty of people who would buy this

Current Savings Rates.

From close of business on 5th January 1996 the following rates of interest are applicable to the accounts set out below:

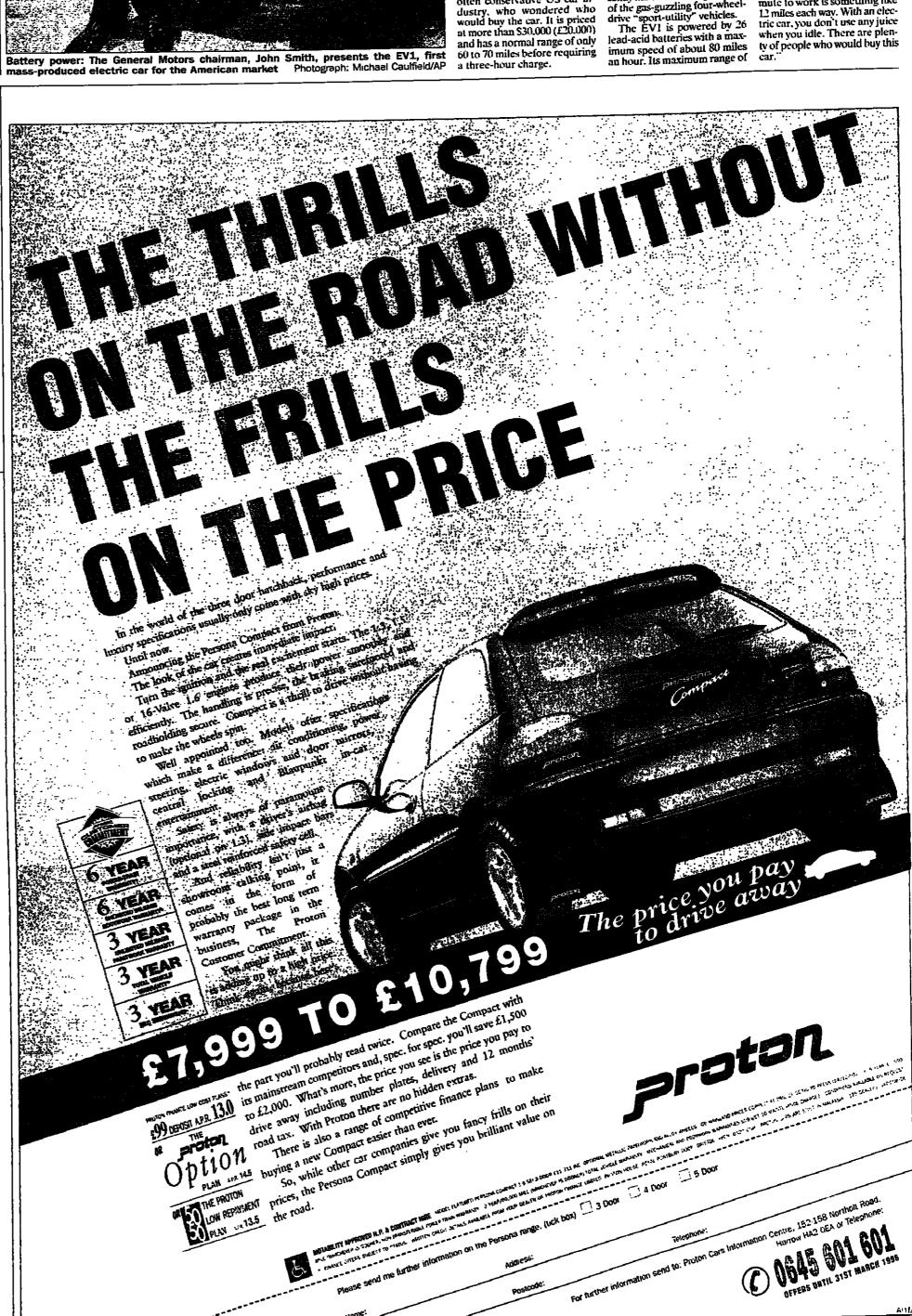
> RATE PER ANNUM GROSS %° NET%

60 Day Notice Account " - Paid Annually				
£50,000+	5.25	3.9 4		
£25,000-49,999	5.00	<i>3.75</i>		
£10,000-24,999	4.50	3.38		
£5,000-9,999	<i>3.75</i>	2.81		
£500-4,999	3.40	2.55		
£1-499	0.50	0.38		
60 Day Notice Accoun	a** - Paid Mo	ntbly		
£50,000+	4.25	3.19		
£25,000-49,999 4.00 3.00				
£10,000-24,999 3.50 2.63				
£5,000-9,999 2.75 2.06				
£500-4,999 2.40 1.80				
£1 -1 99	0.50	0.38		
Flexible Sari	ngs Account			
£50,000+	4.50	3.38		
£25,000-49,999	4.25	3.19		
£10,000-24,999	2.93			
£5,000-9,999 3.45 2.59				
£2,000-4,999 3.25 2.44				
£1,000-1,999 3.05 2.29				
£500-999 3.00 2.25				
£1-499	0.50	0.38		
Interest Chec	He Account			
£10,000+	2.00	1.50		
£5,000-9,999	0.75	0.56		
£1-4,999	0.25	0.19		
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AMERICAN STREET

irwise stated. 'Gross rate does not take account of the deduction of income tax at the basic rate. "Suty days notice of withdrawal required or equivalent loss of interest on amount withdrawn, unless the ining balance is £5,000.00 or more.

TSB Bank pic. Victoria House, Victoria Square, Birmingham B11BZ.



obituaries/gazette

Lincoln Kirstein

Lincoln Kirstein might be called a great facilitator in American arts. A man of erudition, dedication and willpower, he is best known for making possible the career of the choreograph-er George Balanchine in the United States. He dedicated himself to classical ballet in the US for some 60 years. He was also a prolific writer on dance and art, a poet a passionate polemicist, art collector and organiser of cultural events, and an adviser to government. For New York City Ballet audiences, a familiar sight at performances was his towering 6ft 3in frame topped by a sculpted head and scowl of concentration that gave him the air of an American eagle.

Kirstein's tastes were clear and confident. He believed in the classical humanist tradition and felt that artistic progress is made not by revolution but by evolution, by building on the past. Figurative art combined with formal concerns were paramount for him. whether in painting and sculpture or as direct statement through the bodies of ballet dancers. For him, discipline, technical mastery and the context of an institution or academy were essential to artistic accomplishment.

Balanchine's neoclassicism was admirably suited to Kirstein's ideas. In his usual succinct and pungent way, Kirstein wrote, "I knew that what Balanchine made meant ballet to me, because ballet was about dancing to music, not about painting to pantomime." His belief in classical ballet was absolute as well as analytical. He pointed out, for example: "The root of ballet-training in the five academic foot-positions established some three centuries ago is not arbitrary. These determine the greatest frontal legibility and launch of the upper body as silhouette framed in a proscenium . . . Its filigrain of discrete steps; its speed, suavimetrical syncopation and asymmetry make visual superdrama

lene's), Kirstein, named after Abraham Lincoln, grew up in a cultured atmosphere in a large house filled with neoclassical art. From the age of 15, he eagerly absorbed seasons of Diaghilev and Pavlova on summer visits to London and the Continent, and he frequented literary and artistic circles. During his student days at Harvard University in the late

father was a partner in the

Boston department store Fi-

1920s, he began also his lifelong activities in promoting visual artists through exhibitions and writings (among the artists he was to champion were Elie Nadelman, Gaston Lachaise and Pavel Tchelitchew). At that time, he and an early ally, Edward Warburg, were among the founders of the Harvard Society for Contemporary Art. which is generally credited as the forerunner of New York's Museum of Modern Art; he was also a founder and editor of a distinguished literary quarterly, Hound and Horn, from 1927. While in Venice in 1929 pur-

suing information about El Greco, he happened on Diaghilev's funeral. This event confirmed a sense of mission in Kirstein's mind. In preparation, he studied the history of dance in the disparate sources then available and took ballet classes from Mikhail Fokine in New York. He formed the bold idea of importing a distinguished choreographer to found a ballet tradition in the United States, where scattered efforts up to that time had not coalesced. Having helped Romola Nijinsky write her biog-raphy of her husband, he was able through her to secure an introduction to Balanchine, the choreographer whose work he most admired, backstage at the Savoy Theatre during the London season of Balanchine's short-lived company, Les Ballets 1933. The choreographer's prospects in Europe were dim at that time (he was, for exty, and flagrant tenderness; its ample, unable to secure a labour permit to remain in Britain), and, as he had hopes for training the long-limbed,



e: Kirstein was the moving force behind the New York City Ballet Kirstein, left, with George Balanchi

cepted the invitation of the enthusiastic 26-year-old unknown.

Kirstein organised and found financial support for the School of American Ballet, the bedrock of Balanchine's operations, in which Kirstein would continue to take an active role as president until 1989. He was likewise the moving force behind Balanchine's successive companies: the American Ballet Company, which briefly became resident at the Metropolitan Opera House; Ballet Society, founded in 1946 as a membership organisation to produce important new works of dance and music theatre; and the New York City Ballet, which grew out of Ballet Society in 1948 and in which he served as general director until 1989.

In 1936, during an interim period when Balanchine from necessity worked chiefly on Broadway and for films, Kirstein founded a touring group, Ballet Caravan, in order to stage ballets by American choreographers on American themes. The best-known work to come Born to a wealthy family (his athletic American women such out of this group was Eugene college dance history courses. the American Shakespeare Fes-

as he knew from films, he ac- Loring's Billy the Kid, one of several pieces with librettos by Kirstein himself.

He was to continue throughout his career as a mentor to young choreographers, a provider of artistic background, and an important liaison in artistic collaborations. Always an Anglophile, he planned with Balanchine the tribute to Britain Union Jack. As the index of a history of the New York City Ballet suggests, he was 'ubique', everywhere in the history of the company.

His writings, in an elegantly elliptical style, were volumi-nous. By 1978, when a bibliography of his published work to that point was published, he had already produced 20 books and countless articles and exhibition catalogues. Early on, he published polemical writings in support of an American ballet that he felt was threatened on one side by modern dance and on the other by Ballet Russe transplants. His 1935 Dance: a short history of classical theatrical dancing was a pioneering synthesis, which still appears in

Other important books on ballet include The Classic Dance: basic rechnique and terminology with Muriel Stuart, 1952; Movement and Metaphor: four centuries of ballet, 1970; Nijin-

sky Dancing, 1975; and Thirty Years: Lincoln Kirswin's The New York City Ballet, 1978. A number of his dance writings were collected in 1983 in Ballet: bias and belief, compiled by Nancy Reynolds. He wrote two novels (Flesh is Heir from 1932 contains descriptions of Diaghilev's funeral and of Balanchine's 1929 ballet The Prodigal Son) and his Collected Poems

were published in 1988. Kirstein's seemingly inexhaustible energies led him to be co-founder and editor of the journal Dance Index, 1942-48. which contributed to the establishment of dance history as a discipline in the US. He was involved in the planning of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York, where the New York City Ballet was to take up residence, and in organisational work in theatre: he was, for example, a founder of Photograph; New York City Ballet

tival Theatre Academy at Stratford, Connecticut. During the Second World

War, Kirstein saw US Army duty in England, France and Germany. In May 1945, along with Captain Robert K. Posey. he discovered and supervised the recovery of the huge collection of art looted by Nazis and found in Steinberg Salt Mine at Alt Aussee. He was decorated by the government of the Netherlands for his service.

Kirstein involved himself in the civil rights marches in Al-abama in 1965. He was also a firm supporter of Arthur Mitchell's Dance Theatre of Harlem from its earliest stages.

Kirstein received were the Capezio Award for lifetime contributions to dance, in 1953: the Benjamin Franklin Gold Medal of Britain's Royal Society of Arts, in 1981; and the US Medal of Freedom in 1984.

Lincoln Kirstein, dance writer and director: born Rochester, Sir Maxwell **Harper Gow**

Maxwell Harper Gow made an outstanding contribution over 40 years to the Scottish and UK business scenes, notably through the family firm of Christian Salvesen, of which his Norwegian great-grandfather had been the founder. The company's dominant activity had been whaling. Harper Gow showed great flair in taking it into new and diverse husinesses. The first of these was fishing, in which he directed Salvesen's efforts in pioneering the processing and freezing of fish at sea, a system that was extensively copied world-wide.

The involvement with frozen fish led to the development first of cold storage, in which the company became a world leader, and subsequently the very significant food distribution business which is still a major

part of Salvesen's activities. Further diversification into oilwell drilling, oilfield services and house-building gave the company a much broader base, on which its growth and profitability was built in the 1960s and 1970s. Harper Gow became chairman in 1964 and retired from active management in 1981, continuing as non-executive vice-chairman until 1987. He made an outstanding leader, he was fair-minded and generated enormous loyalty from all who worked with him.

Leonard Maxwell Harper Gow (LHMG to all at Salvesen's) was born in 1918 and educated at Rugby and Corpus Christi, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1939, before being commissioned into the Commandos. He had a fine war career, taking part in the Normandy landings under the com-

Among the many awards

Marilyn Hunt

mand of Lord Lovat. He joined Salvesen's after the cessation of hostilities and, in keeping with company tradition, learning with business at the "sharp end" spending some three seasons in the whaling grounds in the

Antarctic.

Although dedicated to the company, Harper Gow developed a wide range of other business the transfer of the company. ness involvements. He was a director of the Royal Bank of Scotland for some 22 years and of the Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society for a similar period. He strongly encouraged the early development of independent radio in Scotland through his chairmanship of Radio Forth. He also played a role in the broader business scene through support for the Scottish Council for Development and Industry and

the Institute of Directors.
Salvesen's connection with Norway and his own antecedents led to his being appointed Consul for Norway in 1949, a position he held for 40

Harper Gow was an enthasiastic supporter of the arts and encouraged Salvesen's to develop sponsorships. He was particularly keen on the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and was founder and benefactor of the Queen's Hall, the orches-

tra's "home". His other interests extended to active membership of the Oueen's Body Guard for Scotland, enthusiastic involvement in the Consular Corps and asfounder of the Scottish Chapter of the Society of Knights Bachelor. He also took a keen interest in farming, horse racing and fishing. The home that he and his wife Lillan made in East Lothian was a happy place at which their many friends seemed ever welcome.

Barry E. Sealey

Leonard Maxwell Harper Gow, businessman: born 13 June 1918; MBE 1944; chairman, Christian Salvesen 1964-81. vice-chairmun 1981-87; chairman, Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society 1972-75; chairman, Radio Forth 1977-87; Kt 1985; chairman DFM Holdings 1985-89; married 1944 Lillan Kiner (two sons, one daughter); died 1 January 1996.

Arthur Rudolph

rocket engineer Arthur Rudolph gained both world-wide fame and notoriety. Without his contribution, the United States may not have won the Space Race and achieved President Kennedy's goal of landing a man on the Moon before the end of the 1960s. On the other hand, he was indirectly responsible for the death of up to 20,000 slave workers during construction of Nazi Germany's V-2 missile.

of the broadest spectrum.

Rudolph was a farmer's son who received only a basic education, but he had been obsessed with the possibility of space travel from an early age. His career in rocketry began in spring 1930 when he joined the Heylandt factory where Max Valier and Walter Riedel were building rocket-powered cars. Their promising collaboration came to an unfortunate end on 17 May when trials of a modified engine caused a violent explosion. A jagged piece of steel severed Valier's aorta.

In his lifetime the German and the inventor bled to death He later explained, "I read in Rudolph's arms.

Despite this setback, the team continued to experiment with rocket-engine designs, eventually creating in 1931 an improved version with more efficient fuel injection and the use of fuel as a coolant for the outside of the exhaust nozzle and combustion chamber.

Further progress was halted by the closure of the Heylandt plant. Although unemployed, Rudolph and another ex-Heylandt employee, Alfons Pietsch, began work on an improved rocket assembly. After Pietsch dropped out, Rudolph approached the German Ordnance Department for funding. His new design was successfully demonstrated on 18 August 1934 at the Kummersdorf Army Proving Ground near Berlin.

Even in these early years of the Depression, Rudolph believed that the best hope for a bright future lay with the Nazi party, which he joined in 1931.

Mein Kumpf and agreed with a lot of things in it. Hitler's first six years, until the war started, were really marvellous. Everybody was happy. Everybody

Rudolph now joined Ger-

got jobs.

many's rocket experts in an endeavour which would lead to the development of the world's first guided missile. Working along-side him were his former colleague Walter Riedel, and a young engineer, Wernher von Braun. A series of ever more advanced rockets was designed and built at the secret base at Peenemunde on the Baltic coast. Rudolph was given the task of outfitting and managing the giant model shops, preparing the groundwork for eventual mass production of the A-4 rocket (later known as the V-2

or Revenge Weapon 2). The first successful launch of the new weapon took place on 3 October 1942. Fortunately for the Allies, technical problems



and Allied bombing raids prevented the V-2 from becoming operational until 1944. After a successful British bomber attack on Peenemunde in August 1943, construction of the V-? was shifted to an underground site in Thuringia. Tens of thousands of prisoners were brought from Buchenwald concentration camp to transform a small ammonia mine into a warren of 46

be assembled in safety. Arthur Rudolph, as the civilian head of V-2 production, was one of the first engineers to arrive at the camp in September 1943.

Over the next two years 20,000 labourers died in the deplorable conditions inside the tunnels at Nordhausen. Forty men died each day from starvation, exhaustion or disease, or were murdered by the SS. The end-product was the launch of 3,000 V-2s on Allied targets. particularly London, between August 1944 and March 1945.

As the war turned against Germany, von Braun's rocket team discussed how they could escape the advancing Red Army. Rudolph was one of 119 rocket engineers who surrendered to the Americans in May 1945. Recognising the value of their captives, the US govern-ment secretly shipped them to Fort Bliss, Texas, where they were paid \$6 a day tax free, with free medical care, sick leave, ac-

previous checks about the war records were ignored.

In return for this privileged treatment, the engineers set about developing America's first long-range missiles. Von Braun's group moved to Hunts-ville, Alabama, where they built the rockets which would propel men to the Moon. In 1954 Rudolph was granted US citizenship. As one of von Braun's senior lieutenants, he was appointed programme director for the Saturn 1: the most powerful rocket ever built.

After the dramatic success of the first Moon landing, Rudolph retired from Nasa in 1969. A grateful government awarded him the Distinguished Service Medal and the Congressional Medal of Honour. Rudolph retired to California, but his Nazi past came back to haunt him. In 1982, Jewish groups began to investigate his war record after Jean Michel, a former inmate of Nordhausen, condemned

tunnels where the missiles could commodation and food. Any him in his book Dora: the hell u the concentration ca (1975; English edition 1979). suggesting that he should have been hanged for his crimes.

Acting on information which had been in their files for almost 40 years, the US Justice Department belatedly accused him of war crimes involving forced labour at Nordhausen, Rather than be charged and put on public trial, Rudolph returned to Germany. On 25 May 1984 he went to the US consulate in Hamburg and renounced his American citizenship but the news did not become public uniil October that year. He later said that the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations had pressured him into signing away his precious right to be an American citizen and attempted to re-enter the United States. However, his bid to obtain a visa so that he could participate in the 20th an-

niversary celebrations of the

Apollo 11 landing was rejected.

to meet with si cause, but, after an immigration hearing, he was forced to leave the country. Rudolph claimed that he was unaware of any executions or mistreatment of workers at Nordhausen, and that he tried to obtain extra rations for the workers and improve their conditions. This version was rejected by Jewishinvestigators, who declared his involvement in a mass hanging of slave workers which took place outside his office.

In 1990, he went to Canada

To the end, Rudolph angrily denounced what he saw as the exploitation and rejection he suffered from the US government. "They only wanted me for what I could do," he said, "and when it was finished they did not care what happened to me."

Peter Bond

Arthur Rudolph, rocket scientist: born 9 November 1906: married (one daughter); died Hamburg 1

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor. The Independent I Canada Smarr. Canada Smarr. to the Gazette Editor. The Independent, I Canada Square. Canary Wharf, London El 4 5DL, telephoned to 071-293 2011 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2012) or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extru). OTHER Gazette announcements inotices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing tor faxed) and are charged at £10 a line. VAT extra. They should be accompanied by a daytime telephone number.

Wills

Mr Donald Vaughau Sinclair, of Thirsk, North Yorkshire, veterinary surgeon, former partner of Alf Wight tthe author James Herriot) and acter Siegfried Farqon, left estate val-ued at £1,133,390 net.

Gillian Crawshay, Lady Greenwood of Rossendale, of London NW2 the artist and designer, left estate valued at £163,523 net.

Air Marshal Sir Laurence Alfred Jones, of Onchan, Isle of Man, Lieu-tenant-Governor of the Isle of Man 1990-95 and Air Member for Personnel on the Air Board 1987-89, left estate valued at £170,513 net. Mrs Winifred Alice Coulson, of London SW10, the children's author, and a founder president of the Women's Council, left estate valued at

Mr Peter Martin, of Low Moor, West Yorkshire, left estate valued at £2,625.011 pet.

Changing of the Guard
TODA'S The Household Cavalry Mounted Reglement amounts the Outcom's Life Guard at Horse
General, Horn, 19 Battalon Soure-Vasculoi we wint,
the Queen's Guard, at Backingham Petare,
H.Neam band provided by the Webb Guards. TOMORROW. The Household Co. say Meanted
Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse
General. Then

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T. Shaik and Miss A. Velmi

The engagement is announced between Tahir, son of Mr and Mrs M.H. Shaik, of Karachi, Pakistan, and Aisha, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.R. Velmi, of London,

Birthdays

TODAY: Major Kenneth Adams, Honorary Fellow. St George's House, Windsor Castle, 78; Mr Rowan Atkinson, actor and come Rowan Attanson, actor and come-dian, 41: Mr Paul Azinger, goller, 36; Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Chancel-lor, Stirling University, 69; Mr Roger Barton, MEP, 51: Sir Ashley Bramall, former chairman of the GLC, 80: Sir Robert Clark, chairman, Mirror Group Newspapers. 72: Mr John Clive, actor and writer, 58; Mr John Croft, painter and criminologist, 73: Mr Angus Deayton, writer and broadcaster, 40; Mr Kapil Dev, crick-eter, 37; M Sacha Distel, singer, 64; General Sir Martin Farndale, Master Guaner, St James's Park, 67; Sir Hugh Fish, water technologist, 75; Mr Barry John, former Welsh rugby in-ternational, 51; Mr P.J. Kavanagh, poet and novelist, 65; Mr Christopher Lewinton, chairman and chief executive, 'Ti Group, 64; Professor Lord McColl of Dulwich, surgeon, 63; Mr Brian Moffat, chairman, British Steel, 57; Mr Martin O'Neill MP, 51; Lord Plowden, former chairman. Atomic Energy Committee. 89; Mr Bill Sirs, former trade union leader, 76; Mr John Sowden, former chairman, Costain Group, 79; Miss Sylvia Syms, actress, 62; Mr Terry Venables, ootball manager, 53; Sir Ernest Woodroofe, former chairman of Unilever. 84: Miss Loretta Young,

actress, 83. TOMORROW: Mr Geoffrey Bayl-

executive. Marie Stopes Interna-tional. 58; Mr Alan Butcher, cricketer, 42; Miss Hazel Counsell, circuit judge, 65; Mr Hunter Davies, author and broadcaster, 60; Mr Tony Elliott. founder and chairman, Time Out Group, 49; Sir Peter Graham QC, former First Parliamentary Counsel, 62: Mr Stuart Hampson, chairman, John Lewis Partnership, 49: The Right Rev Christopher Herbert, Bishop of St Albans, 51; Mr Tom Kiernan, rughy player, 57; Mr Ian La Frenais, screenwriter and producer, 59; Mr Malcolm MacDonald, foot-59; Mr Miarolin MacLothaut, toot-baller and manager, 46; Mr Ross Nor-man, squash champion, 37; The Viscount of Oxfuird, a Deputy Speaker, House of Lords, 62; Sir John Page, former chairman, National Ports Council, 81; Professor Keble Sykes, Emeritus Professor of Physical Chemistry. Queen Mary's College, London, 75; Air Commodore the Hon Sir Peter Vanneck, former Lord Mayor of London and MEP, 74; Miss Helen Worth, actress, 45; Mr Will Wyatt, managing director, BBC Net-work Television, 54.

Anniversaries TODAY: Births: St Joan of Are, Maid of Orleans, 1412: Jacques-Eti-enne Montgolfier, balloonist, 1745; Heinrich Schliemann, archaeologist, 1822; Alexander Nikolavevich Scriabin, composer, 1872; Tom Mix (Thomas Edwin Mix), actor, 1880.

Deaths: Fanny Burney (Madame d'Athlay), novelist and diarist, 1840; Louis Braille, deviser of a blind al-phabet. 1852; Theodore Roosevelt, 20th US president, 1919; Rudolf Hametovich Nureyev, dancer, 1993. On this day: Harold was crowned King of England in succession to Ed-ward the Confessor, 1066; King Henry VIII was married to Anne of Cleves, "the Flanders Mare", 1540; Samuel Mosse gave the first public stration of his electric telegraph. 1836; the new Sadler's Wells

Theatre opened in London, 1931. Today is the Epiphany (Feast of the Three Kings), Twelfth Night, Old Christmas Day and the Feast Day of St Erminold, St Guarinus or Guerin of Sion. St John de Ribera, St Raphaela Porras and St Wiltrudis.

TOMORROW: Births: James Harrington, political theorist, 1611: St Bernadette of Lourdes (Marie-Bernarde Soubirous), 1844; Charles-Pierre Peguy, poet and socialist, 1873. Deaths: Catherine of Aragon. first wife of Henry VIII, 1536; Daniel Nikolaus Chodowiecki, engraver and painter, 1801; Thomas Waghorn, traveller, 1850; Nikola Tesla, inventor, 1943; John Berryman, poet, 1972; Dr Alfred Kastler, physicist. 1984; Trevor Wallace Howard, actor, 1984; Trevor Wallace Howard, actor, 1988. On this day: Glasgow University was founded, 1450; Calais, held by the English, was recaptured by France, 1558; Galileo discovered the four satellites of Jupiter, 1610; the London General Omnibus Cumpation of the Control of Control of the Institute of Control of Con ny started operating. 1857; the first woman was elected as foreman of a jury in Britain, 1921. Tomorrow is the Feast Day of St Aldric, St Canute Lavard, St Lucian of Antioch, St Raymund of Penafort, St Remold, St Tillo and St Valentine of Rhactia.

Lectures

tures", 2.30mm.

TODAY. Sodom", 12pm. British Museum: George Hart, "Nu-bian Temples of the New Kingdom",

National Portrait Gallery: David Allan, "The Lion and the Monkey: Richard Cosway RA (1740-1821)",

National Gallery: Richard Stemp, "Looking Backwards (i): Guido Reni, Lot and his Daughters leaving

TOMORROW Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "Painted Jewels and Gem-like Pic-

Twelve days to comprehend Christmas Today it is still Christmas. It was not even

Advent when you spotted your first Christmas tree; John the Baptist had scarcely begun to preach repentance when you sent your first card. You ate your first mince-pie and sang your first carol long before Mary and Joseph reached Bethlehem. Yet now, when the parties and presents have faded to a memory, when we have struggled back to school and work, Christmas is still with us. On the first day

of Christmas my true love sent to me ... Why should Christmas last so long? The Church offers us 12 whole days to celebrate, to assimilate, to reflect. Twelve whole days to unfold the mystery of the single word Enumanuel, "God with us". But isn't the time in fact absurdly short? Twelve days in which to comprehend the presence of the living God! "And the light shineth in the darkness, and the darkness apprehended it not . . . He came into his own, and they that were his own received him not" (John I.v.11). His own people failed to grasp the astonishing fact that the Word of God had come to dwell among them. Yet we expect to tuck it away in our minds within the span of a Midnight Mass.

The familiar traditions of Christmas are

double-edged; for by their familiarity they allow us to domesticate the Word of God. We all know what Christmas is really about. We want to escape the world of commerce and competition, and recover untarnished those stories we have known from infancy: the Virgin with child, the babe in a manger, the shepherds, the colourful kings from the East. The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us; and each year we settle briefly, nostalgically, upon St John's comforting claim. But have faith reason

Today is the ancient and symbolic festival of Epiphany. Margaret Atkins argues that there is much more to Christmas than can be tucked into a Midnight Mass.

For the Word that was made flesh was the Word of the living God. The God who cannot be contained by the galaxies, because He created them. The God whom Isaiah could not address until his lips had been cleansed with burning coals. The God who will not be locked safely away in the past, in first-century Palestine or in the memories of our childhood, because He is summoning us, challenging us, here and now. If we can strip away the nostalgia, to hear with fresh cars the words of our curols, to see with fresh eyes the illustrations on our cards, that is the message that they will give us. But it is a message so

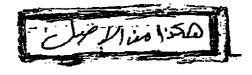
explosive that we cannot hear it all at once.

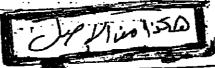
The liturgy of the Church reflects our limitations. However devotedly, however joyfully we have celebrated the explosive moment itself, we need time to gather the sparkling fragments thrown by its force across the world it has reshaped. Thus the series of feasts after Christmas: of St Stephen, the first Christian martyr; of St. John the Evangelist, the most brilliant of witnesses to the incarnation; of the innocent children slaughtered by the fear of King Herod: of the motherhood of Mary, the mother of God. Every moment of the mystery calls for meditation: "And Mary kept all these sayings, pondering them in her heart" (Luke ii,19).

Finally, to the feast of Epiphany, today. Over the centuries, this ancient festival has attracted to itself many moments from the life of Christ. It recalls his baptism, when the obedient servant was revealed as the beloved Son of God. It recounts the visit of the Magi, when the Jewish child-king was first acknowledged by the gentiles. It commemorates the wedding-feast at Cana. when Jesus rescued the festivities by turning water into wine. Here again, the theme is the manifestation of Jesus as the Christ: this was the first sign of his transforming power, and a symbol too of the

gloriously gratuitous generosity of God. Each episode is a lens that refracts a sinle ray from the light of the incarnation. We cannot gaze directly at the mystery. We can absorb it only partially, gradually. We need the Christmas season, we need the multiplicity of its images. For only with their help can we begin to glimpse the time-worn truth with fresh eyes.

To glimpse it, but not to grasp it. To see it, but not to seize it. Rather to allow it, to allow Him, to seize us. For if Christmas belongs primarily to us, then it will pall as soon as we weary of punch and minec-pies. But what if it really is Christ's Mass, God's own feast, "a million times told lovelier, more dangerous", and inexhaustible in its meaning? If so, then Christmas is truly still present, God in his limitless glory still dwelling among us. Happy Christmas, Happy Epiphany, and a Happy New Year.







From Cézanne at the Tate to Pulp's UK tour, the essential guide to the new season PAGE 7

INSIDE STORIES

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It is curious that after such a long and varied career the role that catapulted Simon Callow to world-wide fame was that of Gareth, the genial, overweight homosexual in Four Weddings and a Funeral. 'Nothing could please me more,' he says. 'I knew that man completely'

- I assume everyone kisses ladies' hands or cuddles little lap doggies. I can't help it. I think Vienna, I think architecture and music; whipped cream; Nazis. I think Vienna, I think decadence, irony, waltzes and schnitzel and Freud; and Orson Welles on the big wheel in the Prater
- by mink. I had six great aunts and every one of them had a mink. They weren't call girls, they hadn't married into money, they weren't the daughters of a marquess, they were none of them on the stage. Six aunts. Six minks...
- Although I may never love another house as much the perfect, rambling, tall and many-roomed Victorian family home our neighbour (let me call her Alice) drove us away in the end. She was spiteful, cunning, obsessional, opportunistic and devious

MOTO PROF MONI

MOTORING20 PROPERTY21 MONEY22-25 GOING OUT26

Send a baby box to Bosnia this Winter

Disinfectant, nappies, washing materials – not what you'd think of giving someone. But for a desperate mother in Bosnia trying to keep her child safe from infection, the basic essentials inside one of our baby boxes would mean the world.

Feed the Children will deliver

your box directly into the hands of mothers in Bosnia – many of whom will be sheltering in freezing schools, factories, and bombed-out houses this Winter.

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Please send
a haby box to Bosnia
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Call 0990 600610 now to tell us how many baby baxes you would like to send.

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Please send._______baby bax(es) at £30 each on my behalf.

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I enclose a cheque for £_____(total amount) made payable to

Feed the Children

OR please debit £_____from my □ Visa □ Access □ Swinch

Last three digits of Switch card no. / / Switch issue no.

Explry date / Signature

| Address | Postcode

I fixou would like to send a message to a Bosman
mother, please send it with your donation and we will put
it in your beloy box. Please send for Feed the Children,
Dept 419, FREFPOST, Reading, RG1 1BR.



ndul



BACK TO WORK

Story by Dominic Cavendish. Pictures by Russell Sach and Mike Sharp

and disappear into the car-park. After 11 days of shut-down, the fuel-injected inrush might be mistakenly put down to New Year zeal, but a forlorn-looking driver offers the more prosaic explanation: "They call this a car factory, but unless you get here first thing you haven't a hope

in hell of finding a space for your car.

A huddle of 20 early birds has formed in front of the security hut waiting to start their first day back at work. The surliness of the security guard ("If you are going to smoke, then throw your eigarette butts on the lawn over there. Do not put them out here") is not enough to wipe couldn't believe it - when they got to 12 o'clock they the smile off Mark from Birmingham's face: he spent the

last day of the holiday needlessly worrying that his car wouldn't start ("You have to put a blanket on the bonnet on the night, that's the trick").

Inside North Works, the small groups that comprise the eight production "cells" are being given a Christmas debrief by their teamleaders. "You ask them what they've been up to," says Kevin. "It's closeknit, quite cliquey - we all went for a breakfast

problems. Today, there are two off with bereavements and one more had to rush off when they got in. It's always bad at this time, what with the cold weather." He is encouraged by the low rate of absenteeism. "It's not a case of wanting to go to work, more a case of not not wanting to go to work."

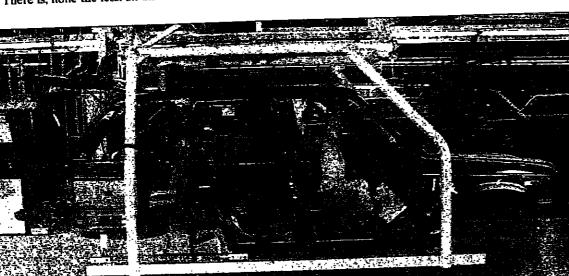
There is, none the less. an unmistakable oh-hell-it's-

7 am. 2 January, 1996: cars are streaming down Lode Monday feeling about this Tuesday morning as the new am, 2 January, 1996: cars are streaming down Lode
Lane and into the Solihull Range Rover plant. They
accelerate brutally past the company Christmas tree
and disappear into the car-park. After 11 days of shutlown, the fuel-injected inrush might be mistakenly put
lown, the fuel-injected inrush might be mistakenly put bundle of electrical wiring like mordant fairy lights. Further along the line, there are pockets of cheer. Joyce is relieved to be only cooking for five again after spending each mealtime during the holidays with her 30 inlaws. Joanue has resolved to spend less on her four kids next Christmas ("£2,000 this time - it's a lot isn't it?"). But Clare - who's putting labels inside the cars - is furious. "I watched the telly on New Year's Eve, and I went to Aberdeen. They always show Millennium Square

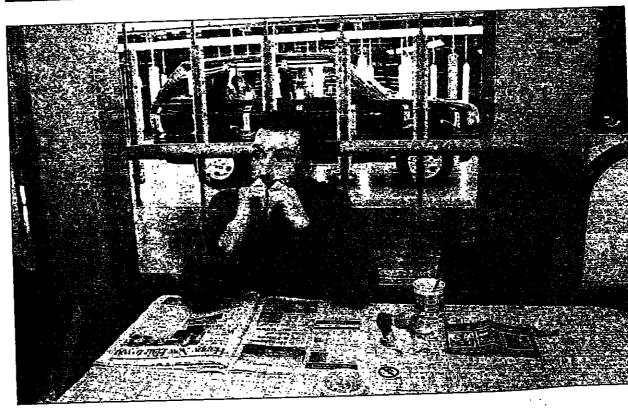
in Birmingham. I thought. What is going on? If you wanted to spend New Year's Eve in Scotland, you'd go there, wouldn't

In the canteen at 10am, there is much contemplative munching of sandwiches. "I saw two people wearing Range Rover jackets in town over Christmas," says Angela, cuppa in hand. "That's sad - very sad." Darren mutters as he eyes the paper.

The fog of desponmas. You soon find out whether there have been any dency only begins to lift during the 30-minute lunch break. In the main canteen, John from design is discussing the P100 Bosch sander he was given by his wife. "Did you see the Alan Partridge show on TV?" his mate Nick asks. "The number of times they plugged Rover - someone here must have paid them a lot to do that. One thing you can say," he says, picking with resignation at a half-eaten piece of cod, "the food doesn't get any better after Christmas."







EDITED BY DAVID BENEDICT

THIS WEEKEND WHY NOT...

READ Discounted **Best-sellers**



This is the first ever January in which bookshops can, courtesy of the now-defunct Net Book Agreement, take part in the winter sales. Expect to find amazing discounts on former best-selling novels (The Moor's Last Sigh by Salman Rushdie, above, was knocked down to £4.99 in Eason's of Galway last week, should you be heading that way) and how-to non-fiction that missed the present-buying season, although it is optimistic folly to think you'll find Delia Smith's Winter Collection going at half price. And if you've a fiver left over on your book token, invest it in If ... (Questions for the Game of Life), a maddeningly simple but rather clever sequence of 500 nasty questions to ask yourself, including, "If you had to have one platonic friend witness your next sexual act, who would you ask?" Just the thing to wake up Twelfth Night cocktail parties.

GO TO The National Film Theatre



Seeing stars? You could be. As Frank Loesser wrote, Baby, it's cold outside, so tomorrow why not hurry on down to the NFT for its Fred Zinnemann day. This guy cast some pretty gorgeous people who strutted their stuff to considerable effect throughout his long movie career. In 1950 he directed Marlon Brando's first movie, The Men, and regardless of gender or persuasion you have to admit the man was pretty good-looking back then. Similarly Grace Kelly who, er, graces High Noon, not to mention the extraordinary Gary Cooper. Then there's the entire cast of From Here to Eternity (above), including Deborah Kerr and Robert Mitchum who lie on the beach and get to deliver the immortal lines: She: "Well, on the other hand, I've got a bathing suit under my dress." He: "Me too."

All films at the NFT, Sunday (0171-928 3232)

BUY **Embroidered** Dog-collars



Green Farm Trading has come up with what it tells us is "the most exciting thing to happen to dogs for a long, long time". Mistakenly, I thought that was Video Dog, the objet trouve I espied on a less than reputable market stall this Christmas, which promised all the fun of a four-legged friend with none of the fuss. Just insert the video and sit back... No. This is the real McCoy. Away with lost dog discs, now all 101 of your Dalmations or your sole Airedale can proudly display his/ her name on a personalised dog-collar plus your telephone number for emergencies. The hard-wearing washable collars come in five different colours embroidered in a choice of seven shades with a free lead attached. Remember, animals can accessorise, too.

From £22.50. For full details, ring Green Farm Trading (01473 737877)

At Heathcote's Brasserie



Where there's muck, there's brasseries, as our food editor Emily Green remarked when naming Heathcotes her restaurant of the year. Smug Londoners will be shocked to discover that this remarkable restaurant is in Preston. Whether you're after a yellow pea soup laced with truffle oil ("terrific"), lamb and rosemary hot-pot ("fantastic"), or a gooey chocolate tart, served with a splodge of even gooier and more chocolatey sauce ("great"), Lancashire lad Paul Heathcote's place is for you. Downstairs there is a bar where one can drink and/ or eat light food, notably seafood, while upstairs is more of a restaurant operation. The wine list, though short, is a pleasure, a noun that describes the entire experience.

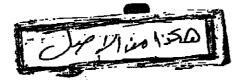
> Heathcote's Brasserie, 23 Winckley Square, Preston (01772 252732). Downstairs meals £10-£15, brasserie £25.

TRY The Alexander Technique



One minute Jane Fonda was exhorting us to feel the burn, then Rosemary Conley came up with the Hip and Thigh Diet. For those who regard exercise as something for which you need a sick note, food and fitness fanaticism continues to be the nightmare of the Nineties. None the less, there is a thoroughly sensible way to relieve the ever-accumulating aches and strains of modern living. The Alexander technique is about learning how to recognise unnecessary tension and to curb harmful habits without torturingyourself. It concentrates on posture and ... balance, using hands-on treatment to help coax: you into carrying out simple, everyday movements that encourage us to be aware of how we use our bodies.

A five-week course begins today at the Armoury Fitness Centre, 25 Pond Street, London NW5 (0171-483 4830) £39.



A Wonderful indulgence

Simon Callow was an unlikely overnight success: for 20 years he's been doing very nicely, thank you, as an actor and, mark you, as a writer, translator and director. The only significant omission from his impressive CV is 'champion of the gay movement'. By Angela Lambert. Photograph by Herbie Knott

Les Enfants du Paradis was shot in 1944 at the height legendary Arletty and Jean-Louis Barrault as the romantic lovers, and Pierres Brasseur and Renoir as his rivals. Many people still think it the greatest French film ever made. Its devotees have seen it so many times that they know its script and its cutting rhythms by heart.

Now, Simon Callow is bringing it to the stage at the Barbican in his own translation of Jacques Prévert's original screenplay, using a cast of largely unknown young actors. It is, he says, an exhilarating and terrifying enterprise, but, if it succeeds, it may be the best thing to happen to the Royal Shakespeare Company since Les Liaisons Dangereuses.

"It was something that sprang straight out of my unconscious. Adrian Noble asked me if I'd like to direct something for the RSC, and I came up with a list of 27 possibles. At the end I said, T'd love to see Les Enfants du Paradis on stage,' and that's the one he chose.

"Prévert wrote a sublime screenplay. The film has a brilliant plot and is a marvellous exploration of romantic love, and actors should be allowed to have another chance at it. I have taken care not to see the film again but went straight to the original screenplay. I've been almost slavishly faithful. I tried to preserve the syntax," he squeezes his hands together and draws in his breath as if demonstrating a tight corset, "the constrictions of the French language, because it creates a different kind of thought. My primary purpose has been to release on to the stage a kind of acting that hasn't been seen in England for many years. I want to find the breadth and generosity and fullness and richness in the text that makes these people live."

Callow acts and directs plays, operas and films, as well as working for television. He also writes books - his latest is a biography of Orson Welles, following an earlier life of Charles Laughton – and does transiations. How on earth does he manage to keep so many projects going at-once? "I suppose energy is my greatest asset in life. Being a compulsive individual, once I get going nothing will stop me." That and, I suggest, self-discipline? The last time we met he was still a smoker. "Sixty a day. But I stopped," he snaps his fingers, just like that! I have a great gift for giving things up.

He has also lost a good deal of weight since appearing as the lovable but distinctly tubby homosexual in Four Weddings and a Funeral. "Pizza, pasta, pesto, puddings - I cut them all right out. Lost three stone, and kept it off. No trouble. It's called the Eating Out diet." Is there, then, an austere side to him as well as the overflowing energy and exuberance? He strokes my cat, who is purring so ecstatically that she sheds ginger fur all over his black T-shirt and trousers. "There's an odd ruthlessness, which is the threat in my temperament."

Callow's ancestry is complicated. He had a fierce German grandmother to whom he attributes the ruthlessness. "She believed she had Hapsburg blood in her veins. She had paintings of her ancestors looking very elegant on the walls and used to drink a toast to them every night." His mother's father was Danish, possibly descended from an aristocratic

French family, the Guises. Not that he gives a damn. Callow says he deplores the British preoccupation with class, but acknowledges that it is a tremendously useful acting tool. "English actors can 'do' class to within a decimal point, largely by accent. Actors themselves are classless. Because the theatre is a kingdom of its own with its own rules, actors gain great confidence in their relationships with each other and carry this over into the outside world. It makes them fearless, knowing they can pass easily among all kinds of people."

arcel Carné's classic film from 1975, when he appeared in a play called Passing By with Gay Sweatshop. Unlike other high-profile actors of the Nazi occupation of France. It starred the decision, Callow has never made any secret of his homosexuality. "What I can't bear is deception and concealment. From the moment I started to be interviewed, people would ask about my private life. I always told them the truth, knowing it wasn't news unless it was an exposé. Secrets are what the press thrives on. For some years there was a conspiracy by journalists and PRs to keep the truth about homosexual actors from getting into the press. I remember the press officer at the National Theatre saying in 1979: I cannot allow you to destroy your career by being open about your homosexuality.'

"It wasn't until I wrote my own first book [Being an Actor, published in 1985] that I was able to state it quite unequivocally. I suppose I was one of the first established actors to say voluntarily, 'I am gay.' People like Ian McKellen and Antony Sher came much later. Ian is by nature a leader and a spokesman, and I'm not either the centrepiece. She was 20 years of those things. Although I've lent my younger than he and their relationname and support to organisations like the Terrence Higgins Trust, I'm not militant. I haven't led or even joined marches. I don't like it, and I won't do it for anyone.

tain that homosexuality is inherently separate. I absolutely deny that. Always at the back of my mind is post-war Nazi Germany, and the position of the Jews. Homosexuality is somewhat but not entirely comparable. Bettelheim is clear that the fate of the Jews was compounded by their desire to put their heads down and not get noticed. I was prepared to lose my career as an actor and never work again rather than deny or conceal my sexuality.

"Public opinion is changing on this, although politicians - with the exception of Chris Smith - aren't yet ready to risk their careers on it. Let's find out whether the time has come. When Michael Barrymore came out, the public resoundingly voted for him even though they knew he was gay, which somewhat overturned the conventional wisdom. There's still no big Hollywood star who'll openly admit to being gay. Somebody ought to test it, though there will certainly be horrible casualties."

Is he in favour of exposing covert homosexuais?

"I take the Stonewall line against outing. It's totally unfair to confront something that the other party may be unable to confront in themselves, and for some families it is the greatest catastrophe on earth to have a son who's homosexual. In spite of that, more and more gay people whose lives have been led in complete secrecy from their families end up admitting it. For about 30 per cent it leads to terrible pain."

It is curious that after such a long and varied career as an actor, with parts that included Mozart in Amadeus, Molina in Kiss of the Spider Woman and Burgess in Single Spies, the role that catapulted Callow to world-wide fame was that of Gareth, the genial overweight homosexual in Four Weddings and a Funeral. Callow smiles wryly.

People stop me in the street in Tahiti, Barcelona and tiny towns in the mid-West to say they loved that, which is amazing. I'm delighted. Nothing could please me more. It's a part I absolutely wanted to play. I knew that man completely and could have played him in any situation. The general quality of screenplays is abominable. They're palpable drivel, but that one was delightful, refreshing, real. It took a tremendous risk by having Gareth die. Unlike the reckless and meaningless profusion of most movie deaths, this one was rather solemn and meaningful - but I liked the fact that he was a gay man who died, not of Aids, but because he ate and drank too much."

The film also brought WH Auden Callow has been acting for 20 to a mass audience, via the haunting years. His first recorded credit dates love poem read by a grieving partner

at Gareth's funeral service. Callow observes, "It was one of those very positive things that occasionally happen: thousands, perhaps millions of people who wouldn't have believed they could enjoy 20th-century poetry capitulated to this one. The background of that poem is interesting. The first part comes from The Dog Beneath the Skin and was a lament for the death of a Fascist dictator. Then Auden slapped on the final verse and turned it in to a love poem." Callow's recent role in Jefferson in

Paris as the 18th-century miniaturist and fashionable painter Richard Cosway will probably increase attendance at the Cosway exhibition at London's National Portrait Gallery. "Cosway is an absolutely extraordinary, deeply, complicatedly inter-esting man!" Callow enthuses. "He was a very clever, very noisy, rather simian character who pulled weird faces that alarmed people; a virtuoso, a collector, a pioneer interior decorator who created parties that were events, complete with stage sets, in which he dressed his wife as ship is fascinating and curiously modern: an 'open' marriage.

"His art is exceptional, as anybody who goes to the exhibition will see. The microcosmic skill of creating a "But I will write an article or make full portrait in a space two inches a speech stating the normality of deep. It's a mad skill; a skill of genius. homosexuality, which puts me at There was an irony in the fact that I loggerheads with people who main- was giving a cameo performance as a cameo painter, or miniaturist."

What, I ask Callow, does he regard as his own particular skill?" I seem to have a gift, a propensity for playing real-life characters - Handel, Mozart, Verlaine, Rousseau – and I'm drawn to them all, partly because they're egregious, bold and fascinating. The result is a wonderful indulgence. The imaginative task of taking a character from the page and trying to give them the same degree of life on screen or stage: it's an act of spontaneous imaginative contact, like being a virtual-reality machine."

His latest real-life role was playing Charles II in England My England John Osborne's last screenplay. "It was Channel 4's major investment for the Purcell Tercentenary and they put it out on Christmas Day.

"John's done an extraordinary script, seizing on the idea that Purcell was the supreme expression in music of the spirit of the Restoration. It was his view that the reign of Charles II was the pinnacle of English life: under a monarch of generosity, wit and imagination, fully aware of the sensuous pleasures and the need for balance and tolerance, English life reached its zenith.

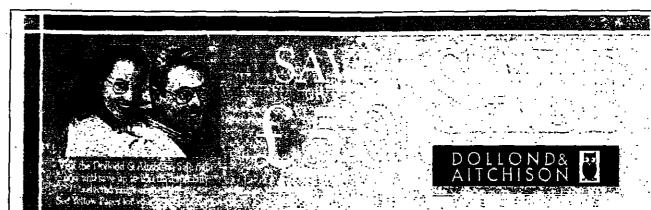
"John was able to end his life on a huge up-beat of celebration. He chose, daringly, to counterpoint his portrayal of Charles II with an account of a dramatist in the 1960s. which enabled him to unleash volley after volley of denunciation of modern England and what's hap-pened to it. This dramatist is called Charles, and he's played by the same actor - me - as Charles II. I tried to play the dramatist Charles more like John himself than Jimmy Porter. It became very poignant doing it, knowing that the man himself had just died."

Back, finally, to his present obsession: Les Enfants du Paradis. It is not the first time he has adapted a film for the theatre - he did that very successfully with Carmen Jones at the Old Vic - but this is a more complex work. "It's frightening for me, the idea of filling the stage with so much life, with a language of acting that is not spoken nowadays: big, generous acting that takes the romantic experience head-on. It's massive. It's the biggest thing I've ever done."

> 'Les Enfants du Paradis' for the RSC is at the Barbican Theatre, London EC2 (0171-638 8891): previews 22 to 30 Jan, then 8 Feb to 2 March. 'Richard and Maria Coswav: Regency Artists of Taste and Fashion' at the National Portrait Gallery, London WC2 (0171-306 0055) to 18 Feb

Simon Callow's production of





A life in the shift of...

David Rogers, 58, butcher, Masham, North Yorkshire.

Established by his father, William Stanley, in 1921, David joined W S Rogers and Son when he was 16 and inherited the business when his father died 20 years ago. His wife, June, does the accounts, and his son, Anthony, will take over when David retires. The family also owns an abattoir.

get up at 7am. After a light breakfast – I love a fry-up, but only at weekends, I'll drive to the abattoir, load up the van with a couple of sides of pig, beef or whatever we need, and drive four miles to the shop in Masham. The shop opens at Sam and by the time I get there, the lads have got their blue and white aprons and smocks on. Keith and Kevin have worked for me for 20 years. Keith looks after the front shop where we sell the meat, our new range of home-made pies and sausage rolls -Anthony is moving us into pies - packets of Paxo stuffing and ready-made Yorkshire pudding. Kevin is second in command. The three lads who work in the back shop bone meat for freezer orders and catering orders, make pies and sausages and organ-ise private killings for local farmers. Two of them spend half of the week in the slaughterhouse. In the back, they listen to Radio 1, which I don't appreciate. There's no music in the front, but there are posters pictures of different cuts of lamb, pork and beef published by the Meat and Livestock Commission. You'd be amazed at how many young people don't know what a piece of topside looks like.

It gets busy by 9am. The mince, chops, stewing steak and select cuts for the window display have to be chopped and prepared - folks today like the top cuts and trimmed meat. In my father's day, people bought meat on the bone and cheap cuts. No one's interested in neck of lamb now, or rabbit, tripe, or faggots, and all meat has to be boned. It's a much more specialised job. We sell ox tongue, but hearts, cheeks and livers are diced up for dog meat. We don't sell veal - it's too expensive.

Keith organises the window display and we always have a special offer. Mince and stew tend to sell at the beginning of the week, chicken in the middle and steaks and joints of beef at the weekend. The locals are traditional meat-and-two-veg people and most still have a Sunday roast. although some will go for a drive or to a pub for lunch. People's habits are changing. There are vegetarians in Masham, but just who they are, I don't know.

It's not easy being a butcher today. My father didn't have supermarkets or vegetarians, or television programmes on turkey farms or BSE, come to that. Beef sales dipped on the first two Saturdays in December after the last BSE scare and much of my job is reassuring customers. We handed out leaflets on BSE and I even wrote a letter to the Darlington and Stockton Times. Butchers like ours are getting thin on the ground, but we're fortunate to be where we are - out on a bit of a limb. People rely on us.

Lunch starts at 12.30pm. We don't shut the shop. The breaks are staggered. I have a pie and work through mine. The lads can buy pies and sausage rolls at cost price, but they tend to go out. Business is slack after lunch, but picks up when the mothers collect their children from school. We close at 5pm, and the meat is put away at around 4.30pm. All the lads muck in to swill down the floors, axes and knives with boiling water. I get home at around 5.30pm and make a few phone calls, organising slaughtering for next week. I have supper at about 6.30pm. If it's Monday, we'll have the Sunday joint cold. Tuesday is lamb chops, pork on Wednesday, chicken portions on Thursday and Friday, steak on Saturday, and on Sunday, my favourite roast beef. I'm looking forward to passing the business on to my son in a few years. I don't have a grandson yet, only a granddaughter. I've never thought about her taking it on. I am a Yorkshireman, after all.

The man from Liberty, he say Yes!

They choose what we get to choose. But do they always get it right? Charlotte Packer meets the big-store buyers

ick Springett is the man responsible for all that you covet in Liberty's lighting, ccessories, contemporary furuiture, textiles, handicraft and oriental departments. His route to buying was a matter of chance. "I started as a sales assistant in 1987 as a fill-in job," he explains. Within 10 months he was manager of the British Craft section. Now he presides over six departments from his tiny attic-office, just off the lighting department.

"Liberty is a bit of a queer fish in terms of the buyer's role," he confesses. While most other companies have a central office with a collection of buyers dedicated to sourcing and selecting merchandise, Liberty's buyers work alone within their specific departments. They head the teams of sales assistants on the shop floor and are as closely involved in the actual running of the store as they are with what will appear on the shelves from one day to the next. Nick believes this contact with the staff is essential. "It's all very well to go off to India and return with some wonderful product, but you can't just plonk it in front of the sales staff and expect them to get on with selling it. They need to know where it came from, and so on, so that they really know what they're selling." Likewise he is keen to get regular feedback from the customers.

Nick makes two major trips a year, visiting trade fairs and suppliers. "Wherever I am, I keep an image of the shop in my mind's eye, and whatever I buy, the colours and the quantity, are all related to that. There are lots of things that will work here because of the space. We think the Moroccan look will be strong this year, and if we decide to do it, we'll be able to create a feeling of opulence better

than many other stores can manage."
Roughly 70 per cent of his stock is off the shelf, the rest is developed in tandem with designers. "I might see people making a totally different product, but know that they could produce what I want, that their style would work. One designer came in door knobs, fireside sets and this year there will be furniture."

An inveterate shopper, Nick is always aware of what the competition are up to - a trip to the post office will probably involve popping into every shop he passes on the way. The same curiosity holds when he is abroad. There is a store in New York called ABC and they developed this amazing look, so I went over to check it out. I thought it would be great for Liberty. I told them I was thinking of doing something similar, and they said, 'Oh.

but we copied the look from you'." So what does Nick think it takes to dedicate your life to buying? The main criterion is a flair for choosing product. You've either got that or you haven't. Obviously there's business sense, but that can be learnt by anyone. My boss said she could give me 30 products and I'd be able to go 'no. yes, yes, no, yes' while the buyer with only the business head would spend all day agonising over just one of them."

n a bright open-plan office at But-ler's Wharf in London's Dock-lands, Alex Willcock, a buying director for the Conran Shop, has a rather different approach to stocking shelves with enticing merchandise. "We have a fairly tight team of people. There are five of us in the UK responsible for about 12,000 products." ucts, and we deal with 1,100 different suppliers." As well as three trips to India each year, the various memhers of the team visit trade fairs and degree shows.

The shows are particularly important as the Conran Shop buyers are keen to support young designers. Alex and his colleagues all have design backgrounds. After training as a furniture designer, he spent some years working in interior design and moved to his current post at the Conran Shop after a stint in Australia.

The buyers develop new ranges as well as sourcing products. "We come up with ideas, this may mean a very basic sketch which we'll hand to someone or we may issue a full design brief," says Alex. And they get an enormous amount of design offers sent through the post. "Not actual products," Alex hastens to add, "but people send projects and photographs. Some great things have come through the post, but more often it's simply that these spark an idea."

Terence Conran has a say in everything. "He's a fantastic sounding board, and his input is really a seal of approval on what we're doing." Regular merchandising meetings are a crucial part of the process. "We get everyone together for what tends to be a very lively discussion. It's a healthy process for the buying team and the shop team to go through. If someone believes passionately in a product, then the majority of times we'll go with it - take a risk.

Last year's runaway hit, a pair of cotton pyjamas, started out as just such a gamble: "They were pink and orange and really strong and we looked at them and thought, 'Hmmm', but in the with candlesticks, now he's producing end we went with them and they were a huge success. I'm sure if you went to another company you might find them saying orange pyjamas, who's going to buy them?"

This is where Alex suspects other buying teams fall down. "I think they over-analyse their customers. It gets to a stage where there's no life and excitement to the product. Buyers need an eye for something new and a sense of humour. They need to see the fun side of a product." Next comes an understanding of the man-ufacturing process. "It's taken for granted that you're going to have an appreciation of colour and design, but if you don't have an understanding of how something is

made... Fashion is another pitfall. "It can get faddy," says Alex, "you can make a store look wonderful with a theme, Morocco say, but what if you don't happen to dig Moroccan colours? Not everyone wants their home looking like a Kasbah."

ALAN LOWNDES

Retrospective Exhibition Catalogue available with 20 colour reproductions and introduction by

KEITH WATERHOUSE

TRANE KALMAN GALLERY





The creative buying role at Marks and Spencer is held by the design

co-ordinators who act as guides and

style interpreters for the buyers

proper. Karen Miller, home furnish-

about what shapes and colours they

should be looking for". Travel is essen-

tial, and the buying team visits inter-

national trade fairs to keep tabs on

what is happening around the world.

"We pick up on the big messages and

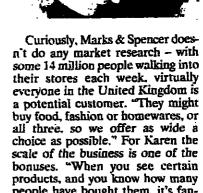
then do them the M&S way."

ings co-ordinator, describes their role

Main picture: Nick Springett, buyer for Liberty, 'Liberty is a bit of a queer fish in terms of the buyer's role... the number one criterion is a flair for choosing a product. You've either got it or you

Left: Karen Miller, home furnishings coordinator for M&S. We pick up on the big messages and then do them the M&S way' (Photo: Good Housekeeping) Right: Alex Willcock, buying director for the Conran Shop, 'Buyers need an eye for something new and a sense of humour... you can make a store look wonderful with a theme - Morocco, say - but not everyone wants their home to look like

Karen trained as a furniture and product designer and worked for the Conran group and Habitat before



joining the M&S homewares team three years ago. Although at M&S the buying is on a far larger scale, she as "feeding them with information says the difference between the processes are not so great. "Although we sell volume, there still has to be an agreement between commercial considerations and design direction. Our customers want things that are aesthetically pleasing, well made and people have bought them, it's fangood value. tastically exciting.

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178. Brompton Rend, Landon SW7 1HQ 5rk 6171 584 75n6 Fm, D171 584 38 Mgm - Fri 10 - 6 Sas 10 - 4 Knowledge' Concion, up to dute guidan lesting dealers in time, applied 6. Control treatment of the control treatment of the control treatment of the control treatment of the collector of sames UK. 12 Serington Philipping 13. 12 Serington 13. Victorian Wind-out dining table. iens up 10 14. Benediul enample o Mahagany, complete with winding Mech. Brass handle & 5 Mil leaves.

AUCTIONS In August,

Bonhams began sending its cheapest furniture to its Honiton Devon, reckoning

that European shippers with containers would feel more at

f buyers seem to be fighting more feebly for furniture in the high street this sale season, it could be because the auction houses are luring them away. New year sales apart, January has always been a brisk month for furniture sales; Christmas spent in confinement with that wine-stained sofa or wobbly dining table sees to that.

This week there are four down-market furniture sales. To savour the saleroom versus high street battle for buyers, try this innocent experiment. Telephone one of the London auctioneers' furniture salerooms and ask how much the dining suite you bought new only last year at John Lewis saleroom in or Harrods might fetch. The estimate you get could be as low as 10 per cent of the original cost.

The auctioneers reckon that in the past three years their sales of "brown" furniture (Edwardian their hard-to-park and earlier carpenter-made stuff) in the £100-£5,000 range bave made a hole in the high street market for new furniture (prohome down there duction-line composite and veneer). Three years ago. Phillips seldom had more than 15 per cent private buyers at their down-market furniture sales, the rest being dealers. Now the proportion of private buyers is at least 40 per cent. The auctioneer's target is couples who want a dozen wine glasses, a dinner service, and a dining table and chairs for under £1,000.

Latest in the battle for buyers is Bonhams's "swift sales". The first. selling furniture, paintings. glass, silver and ceramics, is on

Monday 15 January at 1pm ~ clashing with Phillips's furniture sale (however, these are fortnightly sales, compared with Phillips's weeklies). Catalogues will be rudimentary and devoid of photographs, with lots consigned as late as midday on the Thursday before the sale. Buyers will be given four weeks to pay.

Every other week - soon to alternate with "swift" sales -Bonhams holds a downmarket but respectable sale of "good" furniture, with plenty of estimates in the low hundreds. To lure more bidders, sale times have been swapped: they are now on Wednesdays at 1pm, instead of Tuesdays, in the hope that both private buyers and dealers will make a day of it by attending Christie's South Kensington furniture sale in the morning and Bonhams's in the after-

It remains to be seen whether Bonhams "good" London furniture sales will become a hunting ground for private buyers. In August. Bonhams began sending its cheapest furniture to its Honiton saleroom in Devon, reckoning that European shippers with their hard-to-park containers would feel more at home down there. The Honiton saleroom is now bulging with old furniture, some of which will overflow into

the London "swift" sales. Some old favourites have disappeared from the salerooms, particularly upholstered secondhand sofas made after 1950. They do not conform to new furniture fire safety regulations that came

into effect in March 1993. Strongest antique furniture sellers: pillar dining tables, the young couples' passport into polite society, still being knocked down to between £800 and £1_500.

Best investment: sturdy Edwardian bedroom turniture, particularly wardrobes, inlaid with urns, swags and ribbons: £2,000 might not be too much to pay for a big one in good condition. These are among the last carpenter-made products we are

likely to see. Ebonised black furniture is out of vogue and cheap. An ebonised card table of the 1860s to 1870s aesthetic period might be knocked down to £150, compared with double that three years ago. Georgian toilet mirrors in mahogany are also cheap (£70-£150). And for those who are really broke, pretentious and eccentric, why not make up a set of dining chairs from odd ones? Single Georgian dining chairs cun be had for £60-£100.

> Down-market London sales of antique furniture: Monday, Phillips Bayswater (12 noon). Lots Road Gallerie (6pm): Wednesday, Christie's South Kensington (10.30am), Bonhams Chelsea (1pm). Auction listings are on p26. The winner of the Evelyn Waugh bookplate competition will be

announced next week

John Windsor





Caroline Donald learns to

Stipple, by all means, but be subtle

At a Jocasta Innes paint course, Caroline Donald learns to strip away the excesses of the Eighties

ocasta Innes is a generous soul; something of a Saint Delia of the decorating world. She has produced an astonishing amount of paints, advice and equipment to demystify her craft and help the amateur at least attempt the effects displayed in her books that would cost hundreds of pounds should Jócasta, or one of her staff at Paint Magic, apply them for you. As well as supplying the materials, she runs oneday workshops to show lesser beings how to use them. In the week before Christmas I rolled up to the basic paint techniques class with notebook and apron in hand.

the least artistic of the three: Vicky designs textiles and wall- as details rather than to every paper, and wanted to add some available surface. new techniques to her repertoire, and Alicia had just bought a house that she wanted to decorate herself. The best I could offer in the way of artistic credentials was a rather over-enthusiastic Paint Magic colour-washing of my dining room walls: the resultant smudgy brown swirls were closer to a dirty protest, according to the less polite of my dinner guests, than a paint effect.

The very words "paint effect" are inclined to strike fear or loathing into the hearts of anyone who has dared to break the monotony of plain matt walls, and the proselytising Jocasta must take her fair share of the blame

busy as a Friday night Glasgow pavement, and stencilled honeysuckle running rampant above dressers so distressed as to need their own helpline - it was stepby-step books such as those published by Jocasta that made it look so easy.

Down in the basement of the Richmond branch of Paint Magic
I was expecting to be instilled with
looked delighted at this. the mantra "Thou shalt stipple every surface in sight" but had not reckoned on the bouncy good sense of our instructress, Clodagh

First, a slide show charting the move towards simplicity and the bleached "Scandinavian" look that is currently popular, with a few homages to the paintly one thrown in: Jocasta's limewashed desk where she writes all her books; Jocasta's frescoed kitchen. decorated by friends after a jolly dinner party; and Jocasta's Tuscan farmhouse-effect drawing room. I biasphemously longed for a stray slide of Jocasta's B&Q

magnolia downstairs loo. Then it was on to the paints themselves. Oddly, the EC the urge to wield a paintbrush. wire wool to the corners and cil transfer was removed.

Sponged and rag-rolled walls, from traditional oil-based paints and into developing durable water-based products that are much easier to use. There is even an acrylic converter that will cover surfaces such as gloss or formica to make them accept water-based paints. So, farewell then, paint-stripper and blowtorch. Alicia, owner of a multi-

And so to colour-washing, described in the student programme as "the fresco effect for modern times". Why, then, had Miskelly, who showed us bow, in my dining room turned out so Flu had struck, reducing the true Nineties style, less could be unappetising? Clodagh said I'd scumble glaze techniques of the class size to three, plus a trainee so much more. We were to learn made the common mistake of past few years, practising in a parinstructor. I must confess I was the paint techniques so beloved using a matt paint as an underof the Eighties, but to apply them coar instead of a non-porous surface such as vinyl film, or Paint Magic's own colour-wash base (fancy that), so the glaze had sunk into the paint in great patches. rather than sliding graciously

over the base coat. Easier said than done: but to remove any doubt we were presented with pre-painted boards on which to practise sponging and brushing on to the colour-wash and it worked.

So. straight on to distressing a picture frame. The raw pine had already been primed, all we were required to do was to apply a base coat, let it dry, and rub wax into the bits that we wanted to show seems to be making life easier through the top coat. Then, after shade. Even my careless splodges for those of its citizens who feel the top coat had dried, we took turned out prettily when the sten-

for every failed experiment. Strict disposal regulations are along the grain where the paint Remember the Eighties? forcing manufacturers away would naturally rub away with forcing manufacturers away would naturally rub away with time. Voilà, instant ageing. It looked so good I started marking down pieces of furniture at home that I could age and pass off as heirlooms.

> Why one should want to make a perfectly attractive terracotta pot look as if it was a weathered iron or copper one was slightly beyond me. You paint the pot black and then build up the rust colours with a nearly dry stencil brush before applying small amounts of gilt paint to the areas most likely to be worn by the elements.

> We then learnt all the dreaded ncularly lurid shade of pink paint, perhaps as a warning. The effect depends on the materials used. We tried cotton rags, black bin liners, natural sponge, a long horsehair brush (for an effect called flogging) and a strange instrument called a "rubber rocker" which produced beautiful woodgraining when used with confidence. Otherwise it produced a sludgy skidmark effect more akin to someone walking up the walls in welly boots.

> The last assignment was stencilling, with Clodagh advising us to start always in the centre of the wall to keep the lines straight. Silence descended as we created our masterpieces of colour and

Despite the fact that she had a shop full of Paint Magic products upstairs to plug, some of Clodagh's recommended ingredients and methods sounded more like a Sainsbury's shopping list than one of artistic decorating tools: vinegar, sugar, washing-up liquid and flat beer for graining; hair conditioner for keeping the brushes soft; brown boot polish for ageing and a hairdryer for drying paint. In this down-to-earth context, spending an afternoon painting a flower pot suddenly seemed an eminently sensible way to pass

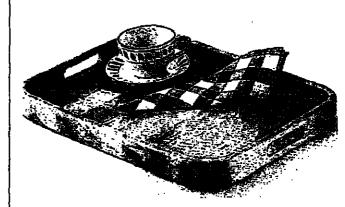
One-day paint courses

The Paint Magic Studio runs courses in paint effects from five different centres, three of which are in London. Courses include Basic Paint Effects, All About Mosaic and Scandinavian Paint Effects. For general course details ring 0171-354 9696 or fax on 0171-226 7760. One-day courses start at £69.

The London School of Decorative Paintwork is based at 2 Fulham Park Studios, Fulham Park Road, London SW6 4LW. For details ring 0171-371 5968 or fax on 0171-731 2334. A one-day standard course is £95.

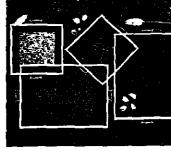
Revivals is based in Queensbury, near Halifax, West Yorkshire. One-day courses start at £70. For further details ring Brian Carr on 01422-246069.

six of the best tea trays

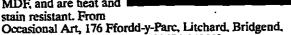


Divertimenti tray, £33.95 Handsome solid-wood tea tray that would suit both cottagey and design-conscious homes. From the Divertimenti (Mail Order Ltd), Freepost (GI2881), London SW6 6YX, or call 0171-386 991

7 Touch Design trays, from £65 Minimalist glass trays featuring a sandblasted glass hase and edged in maple. They look delicate but are quite sturdy: the glass is specially toughened and will carry most items. From Touch Design, PO Box 60, Andover, Hants, SP11 6SS (01264 738060)



Occasional Arts, from £22 Colourful, homey trays painted with fruit, flowers, animals, stars. They will also paint any animal to order on to a tray. They're made from MDF, and are heat and stain resistant. From Mid Glamorgan, CF31 1RA (01656-669662)



Maggie Philo, découpage tray, £65 This is almost too beautiful to spill milk on, even though it's carefully varnished so that it won't actually get spoilt. Buy it as an heirloom, or just to prop up on the shelf.

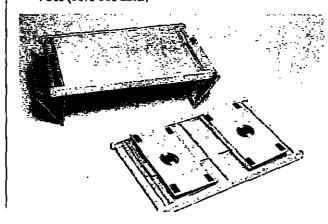


Maggie Philo runs courses on découpage in London and Brighton, Maggie Philo, 18 Walpole Road, Brighton, BN2 2EA (01273 696405)

Past Times, £29.50 Those cherubs again. Still, they are rather sweet, and the wooden tray, "hand-gilded in Florence" comes at a reasonable price. You'll be pleased to know that they also come with a "wipe clean" surface. From Past Times (0800 106666)



Amanda Harman, £120 Ingenious tray for breakfast-in-bedders. It folds completely flat but, when opened, its canvas side-pockets expand to hold magazines, newspapers and pens with which to do the crossword. Available with natural canvas pockets, or red and green as in the picture. From Amanda Harman, 46 Epirus Road, London SW6 7UH (0171-381 2282)





bazaar

Bestsellers

Top 10 items sold at Lillywhites Ping Single Golf Balls

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Wilson 1200 set of irons (steel)	£275.99
Berghaus Activity Fleece	£74.99
Football reolica lerseys	£36.99
Rauer FX3 skates	£79.99
Nike Field Trainers	£24.99
Columbia Longs Peak Men's and Ladies' Jackets	£179.99

Checkout

Out of this World Clifton Down Shopping Centre, Whiteladies Road, Bristol BS8 2NN (0117 973 2518)

What is it? A new concept in retailing. A sign on the door reads: "Out of this World is a consumer co-op and this is your shop owned by you the customers."

What this means: You can only shop here if you become a member (£5 for life). They are currently offering a free, three-month trial membership.

Appearance: Bright and any mini-market with a social conscience and a global theme. There is a Japanese section, an area devoted to South American and African crafts and so on. Placards with information about the environment cover the walls in an attempt to prove that shopping can be a learning experience, not just a leisure activity.

What can I buy? Food, gifts, make-up, clothes and books, but the choice is limited - there is in one colour. The stock is chosen because it Michael Nyman playing while I was here which conforms to one of five categories: healthy eat- I liked!"

ing, community development, fair trade, animal welfare and environmental sustainability. Consequently the shelves are stacked with plenty of things you would be hard pushed to find anywhere else - Manymoons washable menstrual pads, for example. A weekly shop here would be tricky and expensive. Organic avocados are £1.29 each, grapefruit 95p. Savoy cabbage 90p. washed carrots 69p per pound and muddy carrots 63p per pound. There are Linda McCartney's sausages in abundance as well as a wide range of vegan products including Rice Dream non-dairy beverage at £1.79 a litre.

Who shops here? A mixed crowd: sightseers and the member shoppers. People from every age group and cultural background imaginable. But are they committed enough to animal welfare, fair trade and environmental issues to shoo here regularly enough for the venture to work?

Unexpected pleasures: The white-board in the corner on which customers write their suggestions. Current concerns: "Organic eggs?" "Broccoli please & no music!", which provoked only one range of clothing, and it only comes someone else to reply, "There was some

Good thing

Supreme Stainless Bird Feeder, £24.95 Peanut feeders come in

many shapes and sizes and we are told that the apparent simplicity of their wire mesh designs is the result of much research and effort. The challenge, it seems, is to ensure that the feeders are squirrel proof. Not only is this little number given a three-star Squirrel Defence Rating (SDR) by CJ Wildbird Foods Ltd. it's also one of the few feeders which can withstand the beak of the Ring-necked Parakeet. CJ Wildbird Foods Ltd, The Rea, Upton Magna, Shrewsbury SY4

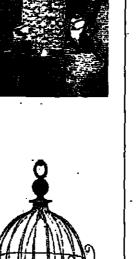
(01743 709545 for a catalogue)

Mad thing

Bronze and Stainless steel Bird Feeder, £250

This fabulous flight of fancy is every twticher's dream, guaranteed to lure the birds into your garden, once they've got used to it, that is. Designer, Stephen Einhorn said it took a few days for the birds to brave the feeder's exotic curly perches but pretty soon they were flocking to eat from the nut-filled bar which hangs in the centre. Stephen Einhorn Ltd, 210 Upper Street, London N11RL (0171 359 4977)







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Lady, it's cold outside

It's a wonder, given the virulence of the animal rights campaign, that anyone dares sport a fur. But look around you and you'll notice that women still wear mink. Or, at least, bits of mink. By Louise Levene

But every year at about this time there appears to be a revival in fur wearing. The anti-fur lobby attribute this seasonal phenomenon to a lavish and unscrupulous campaign on the part of the fur lobby (the fur lobby has always denied doing any such thing). The more likely explanation is that in our annual trip to Bond Street for the winter sales we find ourselves unaccustomedly rubbing shoulders with a lot of rich people and suddenly spot that we are the only shoppers cages of the animal rights not sporting a mink.

I've never been all that impressed by mink. I had six great-aunts and every one of them had a mink. They weren't call-girls, they hadn't married into money, they weren't the daughters of a marquess, they were none of them on the stage. They were fur machinists and had each decided at some point that they too should own a coat pieced

rodents. Six aunts. Six minks. itself a status symbol in the Fifties and Sixties, so was its cut. Last year's model could be as bad as no mink at all. Rather as lesser women would alter the hemline of a dress. could set to work turning last season's shawl-collar-doublecuff into a racy bracelet-lengthhalf-belt-at-the-back. They wore them at every opportunity with hideous hats and a mean to pamper their minks off an overpowering stench of Lagerfeld take note. mothballs. From a distance, family funerals were pure Hollywood - six lipsticked matrons in mink. Move in for a closeup and you'd be gassed by nap-

Harrods, which bottled out ued to offer cold storage for falling demand put an end to this anomalous service. At £50 out cheaper to buy the coat its campaigning by animal rights out that it took 40 dumb anionly one to wear it". Camsable. It was a licence to shout abuse at rich women and the campaigners seized the opportunity with enthusiasm. The Eighties, which gave Porsche, licence to print money did no favours for what had for so long been the ultimate luxury item. The mink coat was on the

Many celebrities embraced the cause. Doris Day, Brigitte Bardot, numerous designers

ur is back. No it isn't, you could shake a stick at announced that they had given up. Many celebrities took no notice at all. Sophia Loren trousered a cheque for £2.25m from an Italian fur company in search of a figurehead. Other famous people still furred up are such trendsetters as the Queen, the Queen Mother (whose favourite pelts are apparently called Mary and Betty), Shirley Bassey and Bar-bara Cartland. The Queen took an old favourite out of mothballs for her trip to Russia in 1994 and rattled the activists.

There is a school of thought that believes that very old fur coats are all right; that the Queen's wedding present had been a long time dead and that no purpose would be served by giving it a decent burial.

PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) disagrees, PETA has a worldwide membership of around half a million. Most of them together from those sad little are women over 35 although the age range stretches from a Not only was the mink coat precociously aware six year old to vegans in their nineties. PETA's claim to fame was made up of posters featuring various supermodels in the raw, proclaiming "I'd rather go naked than wear fur". Even an these doughty machinists old coat is, as the spokesperson put it "a coat of death perpetuating the image that fur is glamorous". So what is a girl to do with her motheaten stranded mink? "It should be used for anti fur demonstraheavy dose of Je Reviens. Too tions, If you must wear it, it should be painted with an with the summer cold storage image of the death of the anithey required, their coats gave mal that produced it". Karl PETA has tended to con-

of animal abusers. Wouldn't its campaign have had a greater impact on ordinary people if Christy Turlington had annof selling fur in 1990, contin- ounced that she'd rather go naked than wear a leather furs for several years but the jacket? That way men could share some of the guilt so liberally showered on women. a go it would probably work Isn't there a danger that the struggle will be hijacked by a own fridge. No London dep- bunch of class war misogynists hard-earned mink inside out, artment stores sell fur coats who get an excuse to threaten any more thanks to relentless rich women? "Financially rich but morally and emotionally groups. The now-defunct Lynx bankrupt" points out PETA. started it with posters pointing neatly. The organisation is determined to focus on this mals to make a fur coat "but rather soft target because it sees a chance to drive home its paigners would stand outside advantage. "Fur is an issue we Harrods barracking anyone in are definitely winning. The fundamental difference between leather and fur is that it is a by-product of the meat industry." They also claim that fewer lives are lost: "You can Mont Blanc and Armani a make three coats out of one cow Jwell, you can if you don't want sleeves] whereas it takes 80 chinchilla." Basically, much as they deplore the consumption of animals, the idea of scalping a living creature and then throwing away the insides away fills the PETA people and more supermodels than with a special horror. Much of

Europe, though, has yet to be convinced: Eastern Europe goes for the tog value but Southern Europe is still in the fur business for the glamour. PETA may claim that the animal rights lobby is on the march in Italy but the streets of Rome still look like a tarts convention. Seven-and-a-half million signoras own a fur coat (but then this is a nation that shoots thrushes for amusement).

Meanwhile, whatever any-one may say about fur being "back", the British fur industry is in a slow but terminal decline. There were an estimated 500 retail furriers in Britain in 1980; by 1992 there were only 57. The Fur Education Council did its best. There was a "Wear Your Fur Coat Day" in 1993, but they were fighting a losing battle. Besides which, the average British woman, whatever her ideological position, is reluctant to spend six grand on a coat she's too frightened to wear, even supposing she had that kind of

"In the past it was a status symbol provided by men" claims a spokeswoman for the fur education council. "Today women buy their own furs." Or bits of them anyway. Rather than face the grief that goes with wearing full-length racoon in the streets, they opt instead for little bits of fluff which the passing animal activist may fail to spot. Even the saintly department stores that abandoned full-length chinchilla are now stocking the odd rabbit collared coat. This sneaky practice has been a shot in the arm for the fur trade whose other nice little earner has been the camouflaging of old centrate its energy on this skins. Mink-lined raincoats are small (albeit very visible) group a huge sideline. Your mother's old three-quarter length black glama can go undercover for

around £700 (including mac). My great aunts were never reduced to this hole-in-thecorner business. Their own minks got the occasional airing as one by one they wore them to each other's funerals. By the time my mother needed a fur machinist to turn her own they were either dead or past it. Tired of being spat at outside Harrods, tired of paying for the mink's annual summer vacation, my mother shoved the dratted thing into a cupboard. It's a pretty coat, lovingly crafted from the dead bodies of 40 little minks. Instead of warming and adoming the body of a woman who wouldn't buy a fur coat now but did buy one once, they just hang mouldering in a wardrobe just like thousands of others. Long dead as animals, they are now defunct even as garments. Ban the fur trade tomorrow by all means but what possible purpose is served by all those little mammals walled up in their mahogany graves? They should be worn - if only at



THE WORD ON THE STREET: WOMEN WHO WEAR FURS

Belgian tourist, (unwilling to give her name) in a wolf fur

I would not buy an artificial coat as it's not good for nature. Of course, it doesn't hurt animals, but producing synthetic materials causes more damage to the environment than producing natural furs. Many people are against fur because they've been indoctrinated that it's bad for the animals. They don't realise that these creatures are specially bred, like cows for steak.

Helena Crosby. graduate student. in a real fox fur

I bought this with some money I was left a couple of years ago. It's secondhand, and I'd like to say that makes it all right. But I do sometimes have spasms of guilt, and even feeling like Julie Christic in Doctor Zhivago can't completely get rid of them. If I bought a new coat, I think I'd definitely American tourist. wearing mink

This is one of two genuine furs I bought in Virginia. Sure, I've bought fakes in the past and I d consider it again, but you can't deny that real furs are both prettier and warmer. I hope you're not going to pour paint over me. Are you?

Miranda Husband, legal secretary. in a fake fur

The only animal rights I'm violating are teddy bear rights, which is how it should be. Even if you don't believe killing animals is cruel, there's got to be something obscene about spending several thousand pounds on one item of clothing.

June Knott, an English ex-pat visiting from New York, in a fake fur

I got this half an hour ago in a sale because I liked the look of it, but at home I do have a real one. Last year in New York, they seemed very anti-fur. This year, though, the fur boom seems to be back. There does seem to be a different attitude to fur over there. They're not as paranoid about wearing the genuine article. A lot of people buy it. They have to. It's bloody freezing.

the thing about...

The rolled-over Lottery

Duy 13,983,816 tickets for Stonight's £34m rollover draw and you are guaranteed to win the jackpot. Nearly 14 million onepound stakes allows you to cover ery possible outcome from 1-2-3-4-5-6 to 44-45-46-47-48-49. The winning combination is guaranteed to be one of these sequences - or something in between. Around one hundred million attempts will be made to win the £35m jackpot tonight, so seven joint winners can be expected. Investing 14 million quid to get just five million back is foolish, making the organisers' attempts to foil bids that cover all the bases all the more baffling.

Anyone backing all the horses in a betting shop this afternoon will

lottery players are mug punters. Back every horse in the King George VI Chase at Sandown Park this afternoon, and you will get back most of your stake; but on the lottery, less than half your "investment" is returned as prize money. So the National Lottery fails in the first principle of gambling: you should lose money, but slowly. After a triumphant debut in Ladbrokes on the eve of the first 1974 election, with a florin on Labour (3-1 outsiders), I have been on a cheerful downward spiral. A bet buys entertainment, and as such can be excellent value.

Las Vegas exists not because of an American addiction to cash, but because it is a great place to spin get at least one prediction right: out \$100 with a hundred spins of

well-run casino is more than a place to lose or win money - it is a magnificent piece of theatre. By comparison. tonight's National Lottery Live is unlikely to be great television. It will, for the 14th month, provide massive primetime publicity for a private company, and restate the principle that

mug gambling is good for you. Bah – New Year humbug, you could riposte. What about the good causes, starting with your local newsagent? He or she stands to make £700,000 from your £14m flutter, exacerbating the differences between the haves and havenots: a National Lottery terminal in your shop is a licence to print ticket and working out the aRithmoney. As well as today's commismetic of probability. You might

the slots or the roulette wheel. A sion windfall, retailers enjoy a constant cashflow from insiduous Instants, "Get addicted to gambling in an Instants" should be the text

of the scratch card campaign. The National Heritage Secre-tary has praised this week's orgy of gambling greed as of great benefit to good causes. But if your reason for playing the lottery is truly altruistic, then your money will work four times harder if you hand it direct to charity.

No: the only national benefit of the National Lottery is to sharpen up our numeracy. To be a sensible investor in the lottery you need to know the three Rs. Reading the rollower forecast, wRiting out the

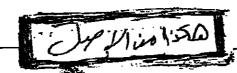
Maths GCSE. You no doubt wondered what possible use those factorials might be. "6!" is not the number of free flights around America that the lottery regulator took courtesy of a Camelot shareholder, but "six factorial": 6 x 5 x 4 x 3 x 2 x 1, or 720. Calculate 43! (the number of non-winning numbers), multiply them together and use this to divide 49! and you get exactly the number of pounds you need to "invest". And if you don't believe me, save your £13,983,816 and spend a fiver on a calculator. Good luck. Lucky Lottery numbers





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Simon Calder Buy big: £14m will guarantee you a winning ticket for the Lottery



The essential guide to the new season

Cézanne at the Tate, Pulp on tour — and Jane Austen everywhere: David Benedict on the shows you can't afford to miss

he Midsummer Marriage, Sir Michael Tippett's first opera. is a magnificent work, but, with the notable exception of Tim Albery's revival, it has had more than its fair share of poor productions. A new version opens at Covent Garden on 16 January by Graham Vick, with Bernard Haitink conducting. Their last production together, Die Meistersinger, was a knockout.
Art '96 (17th) is London's lead-

ing Contemporary Art Fair and this year's exhibition at the Business Design Centre in Islington will showcase work from more than 80 commercial galleries, as well as promoting the new Wingate Young Artists awards.

Without a doubt, the film of the month is Mike Figgis's Leav-ing Las Vegas (19th), which has already romped home with crit-ics' prizes for Best Film, Best Actor (Nicholas Cage) and Best Actress (Elisabeth Shue) in New York and LA, and has put British director Mile Ficcio beale director Mike Figgis back on the "A" list. It will, however, have a fight on its hands in the hype stakes as the following week sees Harrison Ford going where Bogart went before in Sabrina Fair, in its suitably foreshortened Nineties title, Sabrina. A beautifully tailored Julia Ormond attempts the impossible by stepping into Audrey Hepburn's shoes. There's more Americana on display in Leeds where Opera North have unearthed Kurt Weill's forgotten Broadway musical, Love Life (see picture), which he wrote with Alan Jay Lerner, more famous for having penned Paint Your Wagon and My Fair Lady. Doubtless, the company



hope to repeat the sell-out business oftheir revival of Show Bout a few years back.

Bjork is undoubtedly Iceland's biggest export since the supermarket chain, and if proof were needed that she is now an echt superstar, she is impersonated by Dawn French in the new French and Saunders BBC TV series, which continues this month. The elfin starlet, meanwhile, plays her biggest British dates yet,

beginning in Sheffield (19th). Hot on the heels of her success with One Flea Spare at the Bush Theatre, Naomi Wallace is a notable addition to the RSC's rather shaky stable of new writers. Her latest play, Slaughter City, opens on the 23rd, while Simon Callow's version of Les Enfants du Paradis, previewing at the end of the month, looks set to be to the exception to a pretty dismal RSC season - apart from David Fielding's bold staging of The Park and Adrian Noble's The Cherry Orchard, which happily transfers to London later in the year.

March

ommy, once an album, then a typically unrestrained Ken Russell film, is now a smash-hit musical thanks to a cracking Broadway production by Des McAnuff. The British production opens on the 5th. Theatre de Complicite unveil Foe on the 7th, an adaptation of the novel by Booker prizewinner JM Coetzee at the West Yorkshire Playhouse. March is, however, the (unnofficial) Jeremy Sams month. His translation of Schiller's engrossing Mary Stuart opens at the National on the 21st with a drop-dead cast including Anna Massey and Isabelle Huppert, who also features in the latest Chabrol movie, A Judgement in Stone, based on Ruth Rendell's crime classic filmed once before (badly). Five days later, Sams's production of Sondheim's Tony Award-winning musical Passion opens at the Queen's Theatre (26th).

Woody Allen is back, this time playing his clarinet (honest) in a one-off gig at the Festival Hall (18th). British acting talent has been busy in Hollywood -Anthony Hopkins plays the title role in the latest epic exercise in American navel-gazing: Oliver Stone's Nixon (15th). Considerably shorter (a mere 81 minutes), and with more laughs comes the extraordinary Toy Story (22nd), the world's first completely computer-generated animated movie Paris should recognise his work.



from guess who? Yes, Disney. Messrs Terfel and Elder turn up at Covent Garden in a revival of Strauss's Arabella, starring the great white hope of British opera singers, Amanda Roocroft, whose recordings have so far failed to hit the spot but whose dark, creamy voice is utterly luscious on stage.

In a somewhat tardy bid for artist of the year (he died in 1660). Velasquez looks like being a hero of this, the Year of Visual Art. His "Rokeby Venus" is the centrepiece of a show at the Bowes Museum which opens the year's festivities on the 30th. Two days earlier, the British obsession with Impressionism continues with the Royal Academy's Gustave Caillebotte show (see above). Visitors to the Musée d'Orsay in

selection of work by Mark Rothko (detail, right) turns Tup, a trifle unexpectedly, at the Tate St Ives gallery in an exhibition recalling the great abstract expressionist's stay there during Glyndebourne opens its season

on the 17th with the first ever UK staging of Handel's Theodora, directed by enfant terrible Peter Sellars, with William Christie conducting the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. Trisha Brown Dance Com-

pany, unseen in this country for Anderson. far too long, is the highlight of this year's Dance Umbrella Sergeant Bilko (yet another TV (21st), with a programme including the first British performances surprise hit What to Do in Denof the acclaimed Set and Reset, ver When You're Dead.



danced to a score by Laurie

American movies range from transfer) to the exquisitely titled



hot month for theatre openings with Antony Sher returnling to the National as painter Stanley Spencer in Pam Gems's new biographical play (1st), which also stars the ludicrously under-rated Deborah Findlay. Norwich pulls off something of a coup on the same day with the premiere of Blood Libel, a new play by Arnold Wesker - who himself hasn't exactly been flooded with offers for new work, despite being one of the angriest of young men back in the Fifties and Sixties.

The hyperactive Patrick Marber caused a big noise with his production of his first play, Dcaler's Choice, a poker-playing comedy which transferred from the National to the West End and is set for a national tour. He now moves to the Almeida with 1953 (8th), Craig Raine's rewrite of Racine's Phaedra with young Olivier Award-winner Emma Fielding and Jason Isaacs, who was so impressive in Angels in America.

It's also a good month for dance, with Crime Fictions (2nd), a new piece based on film noir by Kim Brandstrup for Arc Dance Theatre; and a mixed programme from the Royal Ballet (7th) comprising new pieces by William Hart and Ashley Page, plus Kenneth MacMillan's intensely dramatic The Invitation, once one of the jewels in the company's crown as danced by Lynn Seymour. The Birmingham Royal Ballet, meanwhile, has what is probably a first: a ballet based on a Thomas Hardy novel. David Bintley's Far From the Madding Crowd (no Julie Christie, alas) is at the Birmingham Hippodrome from the 21st.

The art show of the year will be the Tate's Cézanne show (8th). which has been packing them in during its stay in Paris. If you want to compare what was going on in more traditional circles back in England, nip up to Piccadilly for the Royal Academy show devoted to the work of Lord Leighton Brighton on the 20th.



(from 16th). The National Gallery also has something of a treat with a collection from the Doria Pamphilj Gallery in Rome (22nd), including important works by Caravaggio, Raphael, Lotto, Titian and Velasquez's masterly portrait of Pope Inno-

The much-missed Mark Elder returns to spread joy to the belea-guered English National Opera conducting Tristan and Isolde, which opens on the 10th - an unmissable event staged by David Alden, whose passionate interpretation of Ariodante (starring Ann Murray) returns later in the year. Welsh National Opera have a terrific trio lined up with wun-derkinds Mark Wigglesworth conducting and Matthew Warchus producing Bryn Terfel in The Rake's Progress (17th). A treat.

British cinema makes headway this month with the simultaneous release on the 23rd of Trainspotting, from the team that created Shallow Grave, and Emma Thompson writing the script for and star-ring in Sense and Sensibility (above) and pulling tremendous reviews for both jobs in the US.

Jarvis Cocker (main picture) launches himself and Pulp on a 10date national tour beginning in

April

heatre director Phyllida Lloyd returns to Opera North, home of her considerable operation successes with her regular design partner Anthony Ward for a new production of Cherubini's Medea (15th), with a classy cast led by Josephine Barstow.

Unless you've done jury service, your image of the workings of the judicial system are likely to be based on Sidney Lumet's classic film (and his debut) Twelve Angry Men, which turns up in the West End as a stage production (22nd) directed by Harold Pinter (right). Another British actor doing things American is Helena Bonham Carter, who stars as Woody Allen's wife in his latest comedy Mighty Aphrodite (12th).

The finest acting of the month is expected from the luminous Julianne Moore in Todd "Poison" Haynes's film Safe (19th). Moore was impressive in Short Cuts and simply mesmerising in Uncle Vanya on 42nd Street opposite Designated Mourner appears at Rhodes (from 9th).



the National late this month, directed by David Hare.

British audiences starved of choreography by the great Mark Morris have the pleasure of seeing it danced by Les Grandes Ballets Canadiens, who tour Britain for the first time since changing direction under the new Wallace Shawn, whose play The artistic directorship of Lawrence

June

eon Kossoff, who caused such a noise at the 1995 Venice biennale, has his first retrospective at the Tate Gallery from the 6th. Director Decian Donnellan (right) joins the moneymakers directing Sir Cameron Mackintosh's production of the latest musical from Boublil and Schonberg, who created Les Miserables and Miss Saigon. This time it's Martin Guerre, better known as the Richard Gere/ Jodie Foster film Somersby (11th).

The singing continues on the 13th with the world's hottest novel in the States and arrives ontenor in the title role of Verdi's Don Carlos at Covent Garden, and Winona Ryder, it's very much conducted by Haitink.

How to Make an American



screen (14th) with Anne Bancroft part of the attempt to move away from pictures that focus on men Quilt was a surprise best-selling blowing each other's heads off.

And the best of the rest of the year...

wyla Tharp (right) returns to the Royal Ballet after her sensational Mr Worldly-Wise last year, this time with a new one-act work (30th July), while Northern Ballet Theatre premieres an equally untraditional work: Dracula (16th Sept). Prior to that comes this year's Edinburgh Festival (opens 11th Aug). which once again looks like providing most jewels in the official



festival, including Martha Graham Dance Company, Houston Grand Opera and world-class theatre. The Tate Gallery in Liverpool shows new sculptural works by Rachel Whiteread in September, and in November the V&A has a huge exhibition of American Photography from 1890-1960, taken from the impressive collection at New York's Museum of Modern Art.



Queens of comedy Victoria Wood and Julian Clary hit the road (separately) again in the autumn (dates to be confirmed). Opera Factory return to the South Bank in September with David Freeman's new production of The Magic Flute, and Andrew Lloyd Webber (left) revives one of his greatest hits, Jesus Christ Superstar, 25 years since the show's first production. The best news on the



musicals front, however, is that outgoing National Theatre director Richard Eyre (left) is reviving Guys and Dolls for Christmas. Anyone who considers that the form is beneath them should see this intoxicating, magnificently directed show, which ranks alongside the David Hare trilogy as Eyre's finest achievement. Hardly new, but likely to be one of the year's greatest hits.

arts reviews

CLASSICAL Angelika Kirschschlager

Nick Kimberley on a young mezzo who'd do better to keep the Wolf from her door

With some justification, the Wigmore Hall audience likes to think of itself as a caring group of connoisseurs, ever on the look-out for emerging talent, which it subjects to the most exacting scrutiny and then, if it comes up to scratch, supports to the hilt. The connoisseurs and their notepads were out in force on Thursday for a recital by the young Austrian mezzo-soprano Angelika Kirschschlager. To judge from the applause, she passed the test with flying colours.

This is something of a Golden Age for young mezzos, some of them (Elena Zaremba, Nathalie Stutzmann) going so far as to claim contraito status, perhaps to suggest that the voice-type is no mere half-shadow of a soprano, but something entirely its own. Kirschschlager isn't in that category. Although it's plenty loud enough, the voice is light and airy, the chest register transparent, with none of that exhibarating, rib-rattling toughness that, in some singers, seems to threaten the very vocal fabric even as it thrills the listener.

The suppleness of the voice is supported by a rapid vibrato, mostly attractive but occasionally intruding on vocal clarity. She opened the second half of her recital with five songs which Erich Korngold published in 1947, after he had established himself as one of Hollywood's most celebrated composers. Although clearly in the European art-song tradition, they show signs of something American. "Glückwunsch" (Congratulation) could almost be a pop song in the way the voice is made to drop at the end of each phrase, and Kirschschlager handled it with subtlety. But in "Der Kranke" (Ailing) the emotional gestures become broader, and so did Kirschschlager's vibrato, to the extent that she almost seemed to be crooning.

Not that there was anything crass in this. Quite the opposite: if Kirschschlager has a fault, it is a certain primness, both in the voice and in the platform manner. With clipped, precise support from pianist Helmut Deutsch, she sang with exactness and finesse and, of course, perfect German. She was comfortable in the serious moments of Brahms's Five Folksongs, getting a real pining tone in "Es steht ein' Lind" (A Lime Tree Stands). Several songs, though, call on the singer to be a flighty, flirty young thing, and here Kirschschlager came across as the nice school prefect letting her hair down at the end-of-term revue.

Most moving was Schumann's Muria Stuan Lieder. The voice faded away delicately as Mary hade farewell to France: then became nicely conversational in her "Abschied von der Welt", aware that over-emphasis could turn into "Goodbye, cruel world!" histrionics. She ended with 10 songs by Hugo Wolf – about half a dozen too many for this listener – and then surprised us all with a relaxed, witty and far from coy encore of Kurt Weill's Der Abschiedsbrief (Farewell Letter). The programme biography told us that she is planning a complete Weill recital later this year in Vienna: "More Weill, less Wolf" is not a bad rule for any singer, say I.

TELEVISION Cybill / Roseanne (C4)

Cybill Shepherd is back as a woman in her forties with a truculent teenage daughter and an ex or two. But is she a match for Roseanne? By Jasper Rees



The joke underpinning 'Cybill' is the treachery of middle age, though the rotting process seems to slow for Hollywood ladies like Ms Shepherd

In the slipstream of Roseanne and Ellen comes Cybill, another US sitcom that unabashedly advertises the female star at the wheel of the vehicle. There's an odd opposition going on here. Britcom titles are so much zippier; it's the scripts that routinely underestimate an audience's intelligence. American sitcoms, a high percentage of which are sassy and self-believing, have reductive titles that work like brand names. Imagine Absolutely Fabulous as Jennifer, or The Vicar of Dibley as Dawn. We just wouldn't stand for it (remember Terry and June?) In the States, though, Roseanne by any other name would not smell as sweet.

The letters of Cybill's surname have been half-heartedly shuffled to change Shepherd into Sheridan, but an actress who made her name in *The Last Picture Show* is now cashing in on it. Cybill is also an actress whose last picture is an ancient folk memory. Pre-signature tune, we meet her playing a vampire's victim in a slice of dire TV schlock. Cast as a corpse, she keeps corpsing. Put it down to pre-mortal tension.

The joke underpinning Cybill is the treachery of middle age. Salient among the signs of encroaching cronehood are her daughter's announcement of a forthcoming grandchild, her date's inability to get it up, and her ex's attachment to an airhead. Shepherd has said that her age, over 40 and counting, is the best time to be a woman, but then the rotting process seems to decelerate for Hollywood's misleading ladies. This

n the slipstream of Roseanne and Ellen comes Cybill, is the West Coast, where vanity hires the surgeon's knife to

defy gravity.

Cybill the character (I plead ignorance concerning the actress) hasn't had a boob job, while her richer sidekick who can afford one is even more self-pitying. Maryann, aspically played by Christine Baranski, is perhaps the more rounded comic creation, and gets the best lines: "If I had a nickel for every time my ex-husband couldn't perform..." she says. "Well, actually, I do."

The sitcom that doesn't get off to a slow start is a generic freak. Tuning in for the first time, the viewer might have felt like the impotent date Cybill introduced to a gathering of husbands and daughters, but with some characters, you got along right away. We met teenage troublemaker Zoey at the piano, teasing some overblown nocturne from the ivories. When her mother came in, she reverted to her role of sullen numbskull and plinked out a charmless infantile ditty. Before she'd said a line, you had her number.

Lecy Goranson, who took a sabbatical from Reseaute to attend college, re-entered as Becky after three years away. They got a laugh out of it, as you'd expect of a show where reality and fiction are so smughy snug. In series eight. Roseanne is carrying a new character in her womb, but its arrival would be so much more provoking if either Darlene or Becky could lay on the grand-child, like the one upsetting Cybill.

RADIO My Father Said to Me (Radio 4) Parental advice to small children never changes, it seems. By Robert Hanks

You can try as hard as you like not to listen to what your parents tell you; it will catch up with you in the end. The subject of yesterday morning's My Futher Said to Me was the advice that parents give their children and the way that it can stick in the mind, overcoming all adult reason and education. "Comic policemen, so to speak," suggested Edward Blishen, "plodding the streets in the moral quarters of our being."

Blishen is now 75, and is still haunted by the Blishen is now 75, and is still haunted by the Keystone Kops homilies that his parents inflicted on him: he may no longer think that you can judge a man's character by the shininess of his shoes, but he's still unable to bear dirty fingernails. Listening to his amused, thankful response to parental injunction, 60 years after the fact, you saw the force of the police analogy: like policemen, these nuggets of advice may seem hossile and oppressive when you're young but as you get older, their presence starts to seem reassuring.

The same mixture of gratitude and amusement was evident, too, in the recollections of the anonymous voices that appeared on the programme – they had had drummed into them the same values of thrift, chastiry and politeness that Blishen had. Still, there was an odd mismatch between these off-the-cuff vox pops and Blishen's more studied, literary style.

To begin with, the contrast was disconcerting to the listener, and not flattering to Blishen: his commentary sounded contrived, and his attitude to the other speakers – "My voices", he called them – a touch patrician: it might have been better to have identified them individually. But those reservations were washed away, bit by bit. The tone was so sweet and thoughtful that it began to feel not so much off-key as quirky and fresh, a change from the self-consciously unvarnished style that's habitually applied to oral history on the radio.

In any case, this wasn't history as the term is usually understood; although the memories were drawn from a roughly circumscribed period, there was no attempt to pass this off as a picture of family relationships before the war. Rather, it was a denial of history, a sequence of proofs that there aren't any differences between the past and present: the same truisms get passed on, and while small things change, nothing really progresses.

One particular incident emphasised the point: remembering her mother's insistence that you should always have a vest on (in case of accident), one of Blishen's voices pointed out how much stricter an injunction that was in the days before washing-machines — "In those days they didn't change vests and that every day of the week, like they do today. Mind you, they don't wear them today, do they!" And then, trailing off: "Anyway, where's my pocket handkerchief?" There was an inconsequentiality about this, a sense that outside the little envelope of these memories life just carries on, that seemed to catch the heart of the programme: and it did have plenty of heart:



EXCELLENT

GOOD

OK

POOR

- 33

OVERVIEW Tim Albery directs an Opera North production of Verdi's somewhat neglected trapedy with Susaina

THE OPERA LUISA MILLER

Verdi's somewhat neglected tragedy with Susannah Glanville, Arthur Davies and Alan Opie, conducted

Antony Peattie was clear. "Daringly cast, fearlessly staged... unforgettable... travel to see it now." "Paul

Daniel and the Opera North team get to the heart of

have some glorious, unfamiliar Verdi to look forward

the work," cheered the Sunday Times. "Audiences

to," agreed the Financial Times. "Another fine

unspeakable production", scoffed the Telegraph.

At the Grand Theatre, Leeds (0113-245 9351)

achievement for Paul Daniel... a virtually

THE PLAY THE DUCHESS OF MALFI

Anastasia Hille and Scott Handy star as dangerous siblings in Webster's magnificent Jacobean tragedy in Cheek by Jowl's production directed by Declan Donnellan and designed by Nick Ormerod.

Paul Taylor was bowled over. "Anastasia Hille is simply electrifying... essential viewing."
Unforgettable... Hille leaves no doubt that she is a major star in the making," eulogised the Telegraph. "Extraordinary, bordering on astonishing", exulted the Times. "Striking, but more than a little schematic", worned the Financial Times. "Something is seriously wrong... steer well clear," warned the Daily Express.

At Wyndham's Theatre, London WC2 (0171-369 1736) to 27 Jan, before resuming a world tour.

THE EXHIBITION JAMES ABBE

"Lure of the Limelight", an exhibition of celebrity portraits by the 1920s American photographer, including Valentino, Chaplin, Mae West, Cecil B De-Mille, Ronald Colman and Josephine Baker.

"His ability to impart something of the essence of the sitter marks out Abbe's better work from the gloss of the fan club photograph," wrote lain Gale. "There are unforgettable pictures here... he was able to capture them looking like human beings, in moments of relaxation," praised the Times. "On a noverty and curiosity level the exhibition is enjoyable," sniffed the Guardian.

At the National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2 (0171-306 0055) to 24 March.

THE FILM SEVEN

David "Alien 3" Fincher's serial-killer thriller, more Eraserhead than Lethal Weapon 15; based around the seven deadly sins and starring the screen's favourite young hunk, Brad Pitt.

Sheila Johnston was impressed. It will be a very good year if Seven doesn't make it on to my 10-best list." "One of the darkest, most latelligent American thrillers in a long time," cheered Time Out. "It's a long time since Hollywood came up with goods like this," agreed the Evening Standard. Leaves a brackish taste in the roouth," warned the Guardian. "Demands attention", concluded the Times.

Odeon Leicester Square (0171-930-3232) and on general release:

our view

on view

critical view

Don't be put off just because you don't know it. Stirring stuff.

9 and 11 Jan, followed by a tour.



Revelatory and unmissable, even if you only just saw the previous production at the same address last year.

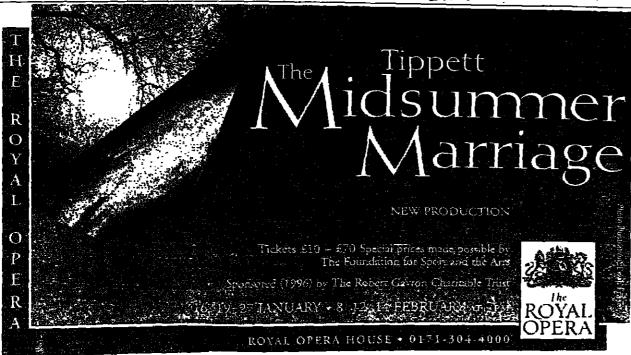


Go for the Tinseltown portraits. His 1930s photojournalism is less interesting



The squeamish should probably give it a miss. Everyone else,







Charity begins at wonderful parties

The last thing Mrs Dorothy Willerton wants to do is advertise her charitable works to the broadsheet newspapers. Or even Tatler. If she wants (or even needs) to spend New Year's Day with friends ("some of them are titled") giving food to poor people on The Strand and Lincoln's Inn Fields, that is her business.

Fields, that is her business.
"We don't do it for our own egotistical benefit, she says. "I am only allowing one journalist to witness tonight's Charitable Food Run. I'm sorry, but the lady from The Ludy got there first."

"Please can I come?" I whimper. "I'll bring happiness to millions of Independent readers." "Oh," says Mrs Willerton,
"OK."

There are 12 of us, trudging up toward Holborn, carrying little hampers of leftovers - left over from wonderful parties the likes of which we can only dream of. Nine are driven philanthropists (driven by an inner need they just can't describe) and three are journalists (two ladies from The Ludy and me). Of the philanthropists, three are titled and

thropists, three are titled and all are from old money.
"No." says Mrs Willerton, "we don't let in the nouveaus. I know their fowl is good

"we don't let in the nouveaus, I know their food is good enough, I know their hearts are big enough, but these are my friends, don't you see? We

are doing our bit without drawing attention to ourselves."
"I was furious," adds Mrs Banceaux, "when I heard a

man from the Independent was coming. I don't want to be in the paper. We just want to help the poor homeless people. But not all of them. Some choose to be from less. We only help those who have no choice."

"How can you differentiate?" I ask.

"Oh. come on." says Mrs Banceaux: "You can tell just by looking at them."

We find our first homeless person in the doorway of TGI Fridays. He is young, and Mrs Banceaux whispers to me that he may be the sort of voluntary

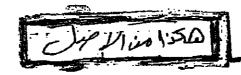
slacker she was talking about.
"He's not mad. He's not drunk. He's fit as an oxen."
"So are you not going to give him any food?"

"No." she says, softly. "The benefit of doubt. That's the Christian way." With a look of deep profundity, she bends down and hands him a little hamper of leftovers.

"Yeah, cheers," says the homeless man. "Cheers, yeah." "Where are you from?" says Mrs Willerton. "Newcustle, cheers," says

the homeless man.
"Long way from home."
says Mrs Willerton. "Oh well.

"Yeah," he says. "Cheers."





Keeping an eye on the future

A rag-bag of reviews by a master fabulist yields up some startling predictions. By DJ Taylor

One had assumed a major casualty of the Nineties publishing recession to have been the ragbag of old hook sevieus and rivers? by book reviews and "pieces" by famous names. But no, clearly someone at HarperCollins by J G Ballard has decided there is mileage in collecting three decades' worth of J.G. Ballard's occasional journalism between hard covers, giving it a portentous title (to include ageold reviews of books about Scott Fitzgerald in something called A User's Guide To The Millennium is a piece of cheek even by the standards of this aspects of modern life, that unhappy genre) and shoving it out onto the torpid post-

Christmas market. This isn't for a moment to oped Thames Valley: "For disparage Ballard's merits as me, this inter-urban landa writer, or his acuteness as a scape of marinas, research cultural commentator (more labs, hypermarkets and indusof which later), simply to wonder whether we need his views hopeful face of Britain at the on Franz Kafka in all their 100-word glory (reprinted from the Sunday Times, 1993) or the 250-word encomium of Joyce which graced the pages, or rather a very small section of one page, of the Guardian some time in 1990. Or, for that matter, his affliction by the usual maladies common which I'd assumed to be to book reviewers. One of the nearly contemporary, dates hazards of writing lots of litfrom as long ago as 1977. erary journalism is that you The key word in any constart to repeat yourself. Ballard does this with eyecatching regularity. Some remarks about Star Wars first minted for Time Out in 1977 turn up again in the Daily Telegraph in 1993. A description of his time in a Japanese intern's camp, first produced

1991, resurfaces four years later in the Sunday Times. One of the worst things you can say about a writer, of course, is that he or she is a good book reviewer, but Ballard is never less than of Hirohito) are invariably readable on the very mixed bag of subjects that various literary editors have offered up for his delectation in the past thirty years. This is despite his sneaking fondness for the mind gives hope to us all," he Henry Millers and the writes at one point. Ballard's William Burroughes – ali that old, discredited hippy gang one singular twist of his habitwho exert such an enduring fascination on this side of the Atlantic. Where he comes into his stride, though, and where the book narrowly begins to justify its title, is in the handful of pieces grouped under the heading, "Science".

for the Daily Telegraph in

In retrospect Ballard's prescience about scientific, or more accurately technological, development seems monstrously acute. Like H.G. Wells talking to an audience of the 1900s, he gives the impression not only of knowing what the future will be like and porn parlours." A User's ("Almost anything we care to say about the future will probably come true" he suggests at one point, "and sooner than we think") but of actually rel-

ishing its arrival This attitude is rarer than it sounds. Most intelligent people are not particularly interested in "the future", simply accepting its gadgetry as and when it arrives. Ballard, by ographer's eye, we should contrast, falls into that comparatively small category of sense of humour.

Agrica in

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Essays and Reviews

HarperCollins £18

persons who are enraptured by the soulless cityscapes along the horizon, who conduct a kind of love affair with the concrete and skyscraper enables him to remark, without obvious irony, of the ghastliness of the redevelend of the century." More important, perhaps, is that Ballard was saying these things a quarter of a century ago. The piece on cars, first aired in Drive magazine in 1971, reads as if it were a year or two old, while an essay on "The Future of the Future",

sideration of Ballard's prose. fictional or otherwise, is "denatured". It is difficult not to believe that his own personal period of denaturing the two adolescent years spent in the intern's camp near Shanghai – isn't in some way responsible for this obsession with artificial environments, entropy and all the rest of the 21st-century SF package. The pieces of autobiography and the reviews of books with an indirect link to his own early life (for example a biography the most interesting, not only in terms of their content but because of the clues they sup-ply as to motivation. The resolution of the wounded wartime experience imparts ual Left-liberal world view: he finds the idea that the dropping of the A-bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki was an immoral act, "wholly baffling".
"I think there should be

more sex and violence on television, not less. Both are powerful catalysts of social change at a time when change is desperately needed..." "How to improve London? Launch a crash programme to fill the city with pirate TV stations, nightclubs, brothels Guide is full of spirited nonsense of this kind. The effect, though, is oddly exhilarating - like watching some shy and diffident old uncle suddenly letting his hair down at a party, but with a sober selfconsciousness that somehow lends the gesture a redeeming charm. As well as the prescience and the clear autobi-

Gothic vaults and kitchen pans

Was the art of the high Renaissance born of cultural purity or plurality? Bruce Boucher reports

wenty years ago, Jan Bialo- Court Cloister and City: stocki, a Polish art historian, published a book on the Renaissance, one which did not centre on Italy or France but took Eastern Europe as its subject. A survivor by Thomas Da Costa Kaufmann from the pre-war order, he wanted to demonstrate the rich cultural developments experienced in Prague and Krakow under the Jagellonian dynasty and in Buda under the enlightened Hungarian monarch, Matthias Corvinus, There was, however, a subtext to his book, for Bialostocki was also protesting against the marginalisation of Eastern Europe in the larger history of European culture as wit-nessed by its virtual exclusion from modern surveys such as the Pelican History of Art.

City was prompted by similar historical and geographical concerns, chiefly the impact of the annus mirabilis of 1989-90 on our perception of Europe as an entity. The dissolution of the Warsaw Pact regimes and the resurgence of ethnic antagonisms have once more revealed the cultural mosaic of Central and Eastern Europe that had been largely suppressed for four decades. Kaufmann's study is not only informed by recent events, but also sees them as a key to understanding the formation of Central European culture, from the Renaissance to the Enlightment. The timespan is vast and the book covers a significant tract, ranging from the old Polish commonwealth to the major and minor German states as well as Austria and Hungary. At its heart is a portrait of the old Holy Roman Empire, that broad confederation of Mittel Europa presided over by Austrian Habsburg emperors and the source of some of the greatest artistic achievements of the postmedieval era.

Kaufmann's primary focus is not the customary comparison of northern artefacts with a putative,

The Art and Culture of Central Europe, 1450-1800 Weidenfeld £25

the hybridity of most Central European art and architecture as an end in itself. Thus, the fusion of gothic vaulting and renaissance detail in the Prague castle should be understood as negotiating the expectations of tradition — the golden age of Bohemia under Charles IV — with the dynastic ambitions of the Jagellonian court. It is also what one Thomas DaCosta Kaufmann's would expect from a German magisterial Court, Cloister, and mason working for a Polish king in the capital of B.ohemia.

Kaufmann interprets such hybridity as a positive force in Central European art, enabling cultural differences to be addressed and in some sense reconciled. Such a conclusion may seem blindingly obvious, but it took the events of 1989 and their aftermath to lend this kind of perspective to the cross-currents of earlier European history. Pluralism becomes a leitmotiv of Court, Cloister and City, and it allows the author to invert normal expectations - as when he observes that Durer, often evoked as the quintessential German artist, may have been ethnically Hungarian.

Diversity and the fluidity of boundaries also surfaces in Kaufmann's discussion of the Reformation, in which he reminds us that artists such as Cranach worked for Protestant and Catholic patrons alike or that Lutheran churches in Prague were based upon Roman models while Catholic churches in Carinthia were adapted Protestant ones.

The great example of successful hybridity came with the court the reception of the Renaissance of the Habsburg emperor Rudolf across Central Europe, but his is II in Prague. There, at the turn of the 17th century, artists as diverse as Arcimboldo, Spranger and de Italianate ideal. Instead, he sees Vries created a court style that not and refinement common to Wirzburg can verify. The efflo- the state of Central Europe today.



Branching out: Arcimboldo's 'Winter' showed a bold new court style that transcended its models

only reflected Italian models but Prague art of the period. transformed them. An indifferent politician, Rudolf excelled as a patron, actively intervening in artistic projects, as when he directed the painter Roclant Savery to draw rare species for his still-lifes which are among the earliest produced in Europe. But the bizarre constructs of the Milanese artist Arcimboldo are probably the most characteristic examples of Rudolf's taste. Their combination of inanimate objects to create portraits — a cook from pots and pans, the emperor as Verturnus, god of the seasons, from fruits and flowers - reflect

the intricate intellectual content

If Rudolf II assumes a pivotal role in Kaufmann's book, his achievements are kept in perspective by the survey of the arts in the old Reich and Poland during the 18th century. The defeat of the Turks at Vienna in 1683 lent a new confidence to the Habs-burgs and their allies which was readily translated into new palaces and monasteries. Added stimulus came from Versailles and the patronage of Louis XIV. The emergence of a new imperial style sought its inspiration in Italy and France but surpassed its

models in grandeur and audacity

as any visitor to Melk or

rescence lasted for a century, and proved a glorious swansong to the old order. The forces that led to the French Revolution set in train the demise of the Polish Republic by 1795 and the Holy Roman Empire a decade later.

The Reich may not have been, in Voltaire's words, either holy, Roman, or an empire, but its merits lay in an openness to cultural diversity and the dispersal of power rather than its centralisation. Ironically, the conditions that ultimately made the Empire weak had been its strength. Kauffman's book shows that this same blend of strengths and weaknesses have much to tell us about

Jewish sunset, Jewish sunrise

Is European Jewry doomed to extinction? David Goldberg predicts an upsurge of interest in the ancient faith

Cour long history of rootlessness, is that each succeeding generation tends to think. Apres moi le deluge.

The Biblical prophets were convinced that they were first great legal code, the Mishnah, because they feared that Jewish law would otherwise be forgotten; nearly a thousand years after them, Moses Maimonides produced his great compendium of Jewish law because he was

characteristic of being Jewish scholarship; the 1492 Vanishing Diaspora: A Jewish, perhaps due to exiles from Spain lamented a golden age lost for ever.

Five hundred years, several persecutions, pogroms and the Nazi Holocaust later, the Jewish people survive and fellow Jews still write their addressing generations obituary notices. Recently, doomed to destruction; the The Golden Chain by Norancient rabbis produced their man Cantor, confidently predicted the imminent disappearance of American and European Jewry, and the

State of Israel as well. Not to be outdone, Bernard Wasserstein has produced his own melancholy lament, Vanishing Diaspora; convinced that he repre- but as befits a Brit, he is Hugh sented the last generation of Grant diffident rather than

The Jews in Europe since 1945

by Bernard Wasserstein Hamish Hamilton, £20

Bruce Willis brash. Unlike Cantor's global extinction, Wasserstein merely predicts the slow but sure sunset of European Jewry.

Vanishing Diaspora is an engagingly-written survey, longer on generalisations and anecdote than on hard facts. in answer either the tradi-Wasserstein's conclusions are tional rabbinic definition of a faith is as high as 50 per

for European Jewry is bleak, that we are witnessing the withering away of Judaism as a spiritual component in the there is no longer "an authentic Jewish culture in Europe". Hardly surprising, one might he inclined to retort, after two out of every three European Jews died as a result of

Hitler's genocide. There is, though, a Jewish revival of a different kind going on in eastern and central Europe today which Wasserstein overlooks. Who is a Jew? he asks, then offers racies of western Europe,

that the demographic outlook person born of a Jewish mother, which be finds too restrictive, or Jean-Paul Sartre's aphorism that a Jew is anyone whom anti-Semites lives of most Jews, and that take to be one, which he considers too elastic. In fact, there is a third

definition, one which accords more realistically both with the Jewish experience in Europe since the Enlightenment, and with contemporary perceptions in post-Communist societies. It is this: a Jew is someone who regards himself or herself as Jewish. That is why, in the liberal democwhere marriage out of the

cent, the children of such marriages often choose to define themselves as Jewish; and why, in countries like the former Soviet Union or Czechoslovakia, where religion was banned, there has been a tremendous upsurge of interest among the young in the faith and practices of their ancestors.

In modern Europe there are other ways of being a Jew than by religion or Zionism. Wasserstein is reluctant to acknowledge this, and thereby blithely writes off the future of a people that has survived in Europe for 2,000 years by virtue of resilience

A passion for the Union

A new biography of Abraham Lincoln suggests that the American Civil War need not have happened. Frank McLynn begs to differ

to add to the 6,000 or so extant? In one sense it turns by David Herbert Donald there is nothing to fear, as the newcomber is distinctive and original. But it is so in all the wrong ways. The book has no subtitle, but an apt one would be Anglo-Saxon this. "Old Abe" went from log other words, Professor Donald's book has all the virtues of profesresearch, a deep knowledge of the subject, and a fervent commitment to the historiographical debates about the Civil War context, a sense of mythology and the irrational and, most impor-

tantly, psychological insight. A good way to see Donald's book in perspective is to contrast the "old" and "new" views of Lincoln. The old view - with whom we associate very much in the multivolume biography by the poet the Lincoln-Douglas debates in other, he accepts the charge of Carl Sandburg and the movies of 1858 was not all that impressive: wartime autocracy and of Lin-John Ford and others - goes like he was a natural autocrat who coln's political incorrectness thesis any historian could set him-

empiricism and its limitations. In cabin to White House; he was a cracker-barrel philosopher and a backwoods lawyer who came out sional historical scholarship - of the wilderness to defeat Senameticulous and exhaustive tor Douglas in a memorable series of debates in 1858 ("a house divided against itself will fall"); he fought the Civil War to liberate the slaves and was thus acclaimed as period. What it lacks is a broader a demigod by the blacks; he made the greatest speech of all time with the Gettysburg Address; finally he was murdered by the lone assassin John Wilkes Booth.

stresses that Lincoln was a com- nomic explanations for the Civil promise candidate for the presidency in 1860; his performance in Gettysburg greatness. On the

corpus and other civil rights at will; blacks, he wanted to ship them all back to Africa; and he was assasprobably masterminded by the Secretary of War Edwin Stanton. was not fought on the issue of slavery at all. It was a socio-economic conflict between a primary-producing, free trading South and an industrial and protectionist North.

to all this? It is a bit like Paddy Ashdown, in that sometimes it leans to one side and sometimes to the other. So, for example, on one hand Donald is a 'lone assassin' The new or revisionist view man, he has no truck with eco-War, and he concedes Lincoln his

relished wartime as it gave him the towards what he anachronistically self to sustain and, perhaps wisely, book is a severe disappointment. states not be allowed to secede opportunity to suspend habeas calls 'African-Americans' (the slaves could only become 'Africanfar from being a champion of the Americans' once Lincoln had abandoned his repatriation plans and instead issued the Emancipasinated as the result of a conspir- tion Proclamation). On the Linacy by the radical Republicans, coln-Douglas debates he is plain confusing, declaring one moment that they changed nothing, the Oh, and by the way, the Civil War next that they turned Lincoln into a national hero.

Donald's most controversial conclusion is that the Civil War was not inevitable. Both the 'old' and 'new' views concurred in thinking How does Donald's book relate it was, but disagreed about whether the basic cause was slavery or an irreconcilable clash of regional economic interests. Donald appears to think that it was Lincoln's ineptitude in his first month in office that led to the Fort Sumter crisis and that, had events in 1860-61 worked out differently, there might have been no fratricidal blood-letting. This is probably the most difficult counterfactual

Donald makes no serious attempt to do so. But this tendency in that direction does alert us to a peculiarity about his portrait of Lincoln. This is not so much a "warts and all" picture but, with the exception of the odd nod to Gettysburg, it's warts, the whole warts and noth-

ing but the warts. According to Donald, Lincoln's most salient attribute was his luck. He was chosen as Republican candidate in 1860 because the either for a radical Republican with an uncompromising attitude towards the South or for those canbeing 'soft' on the South. Then in as America's greatest President. the Presidential contest proper, he was handed the election on a plate be Donald's strait-laced respect for because the Democrats split archival research, to the detribetween Douglas and Breckinbridge; Lincoln ended with less than 40 percent of the popular logical insights. Why, for example, vote but a clear majority in the

electoral college. The Civil War section of the determination that the Southern pointed and dispirited.

Donald concentrates on Lincoln's from the Union take on the dimenrelations with his generals, Cabi- sions of a religious crusade? Why net Ministers, the Supreme Court did he famously state that if he and the media but never conveys could save the Union by freeing all any sense of a great nation convulsed by the most traumatic he could save it by freeing none. conflict in its history. The effect is he would do that, or by freeing rather like reading a biography of Winston Churchill which eschews Alamein, Stalingrad and Overlord in favour of the Beveridge Report and Churchill's wrangles with the Daily Mirror. Because Convention did not want to opt Lincoln as the binder-up of the nation's psychic wounds has a very low profile in Donald's account, the result is to make us wonder didates who were perceived as how Lincoln ever came to be seen

> I suspect part of the trouble may was Lincoln obsessed with the sional scholars only, the general idea of "union"? Why did his reader is likely to be left disap-

> Professor Donald has written eleven books about Lincoln and the Civil War. It may seem churlish to be so unenthusiastic about this summation of his lifetime's work but this book is a long way from the definitive Abe biography. If Donald's Lincoln were the real Lincoln, we should be justified in ment of broader cultural, mytho- asking what all the fuss has been logical, semiological or psycho- about ever since 1865. This is a work that will appeal to profes-

the slaves, he would do that, or if

some and leaving others as slaves

he would do that also? Charles

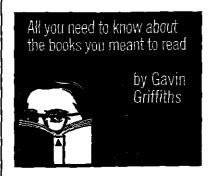
Strozier wrote a brilliant book

about this aspect of the Lincoln

psyche; Donald does not consider

it a question worth addressing.





This week: **THE TRIAL (1925)** by Franz Kafka

Plot: As a German-speaking Jew living in the Prague of the fading Austrian Empire. Kafka understood and explored alienation. This short, unrevised novel juggles socio-political protest, paranoid (sometimes erotic) fantasy and quasi-religious parable in a way which is simultaneously grat-

ingly neurotic and icily detached.

"Someone must have been telling lies about Joseph K for without having done anything wrong he was arrested one fine morning". The core of the story is exposed in the offbeam wit of the casual opening sentence. Joseph K is a thirty-yearold bank clerk with a touch of Hamlet and more than a dash of Buster Keaton. After interrogation, he is allowed to resume work providing that he promises to attend the Courthouse. His visits prove barren. In the second half of the novel, it becomes increasingly difficult to disentangle K's warped perceptions from outward reality. However, he seeks a solution - and absolution - in Love, Art and Religion.

Leni, an excitable nurse, informs K that guilty men are often sexier than innocent ones. Titorelli, a painter of judges, offers the cheery opinion that nobody is ever acquitted and that the Court's pronouncements are just devious techniques for deferring sentence. Finally, the priest tells the parable of the man from the country who waited outside the door of the Law. The doorkeeper refuses to let him in and the man's life drifts away. Near death, he asks the doorkeeper why, if all seek the Law, no one else ever turned up. The doorkeeper explains that this particular door is intended only for the countryman; he then promptly slams it shut in the supplicant's face. K and the priest puzzle over this one.

The book ends with K murdered "like a dog". As he loses consciousness ne sees a distant human figure who may be a friend or a tormentor. K never meets the Judge nor sees the High Court

between guilt and the Law. Guilt is a constant prickly heat; the Law is distant, vindictive, arbitrary and merciless. Throughout his experience, K struggles to assert some form of dignity. Although the struggle ends in tragedy it usually collapses into grim farce. The moment that K picks up the rules of the game, the rules are

Style: The prose is luminously uncluttered. Devoid of metaphor, the deadpan directness is often at odds with the bizarre events described. Humour and horror are woven into a cruel, seamless synthesis. The narrative is a labyrinth of parable which both invites and mocks interpretation.

Chief strengths: "He over whom Kafka's wheels have passed has lost forever any peace with the world" (T.W. Adorno). Kafka fuses his metaphysical vision to his boredom and his crazy personality to reproduce a nightmare where senseless incidents, words and gestures are rationalised without being remotely understood.

Chief weakness: Indirectly, Kafka can be preachy. Walter Benjamin argued that Kafka was like Confucius, but a Confucius bereft of a cultured audience to instruct: therefore Kafka's didacticism was illegitimately

What they thought of it then: Kafka believed the book a failure and asked his friend Max Brod to burn the manuscript. In the Thirties the Nazis were delighted to comply with his wishes. throwing all the writer's works on the

What we think of it now: Critics cannot leave the book alone. Like a wall of highly polished marble, The Trial cannot be scaled and tends to reflect the preoccupations of the onlooker. W.H. Auden suggested that Kafka stands in relation to our own age as Dante and Goethe stood in relation to theirs.

Responsible for: Borges's elliptical ficciones, Beckett's boring tramps and Kazuo Ishiguro's The Unconsoled. Also the word "Kafkaesque" which, according to George Steiner, exists in over a hundred languages.



The culture of barbarism

George Steiner is the most passionate and erudite of critics, but is he too grand to be true? By Robert Winder



lecturing in Oxford Picture:

No Passion Spent: Essays 1978-96 by George Steiner, Faber £19.99

The Deeps of the Sea and other fiction by George Steiner, Faber £12.99

he first essay in George Steiner's new volume of criticism is a discussion (brilliant, of course) of the painting on the cover. It is by the 18th century Frenchman Jean-Baptiste-Simeon Chardin, and shows a philosopher, sporting opulent red and gold robes and a flamboyant fur hat, poring over a fat volume on his desk. Steiner sees in this image a striking illustration of the act of reading; in the man's clothes and posture he finds a book is not something to curl up with, or an excuse for a lie-down, but a fordressing up. Citing Mencken's quip about people who think they are emancipated but are really only unbuttoned, Steiner calls for schools of creative reading to encourage the quiet contemplation of words. It is rather a sounds merely like a blast against slovenly modern manners. Writers who urge us to read more tend to be accused, in these suspicious times, of having a vested interest. And there is indeed a sense in which Steiner seems more like him. His own eager erudition gives him, perhaps, something of the loneliness of the explorer. Nearly every page hums with references to

than himself. Perhaps he is simply pleading for the rest of us to keep up. so that he has someone to talk to. Few people would dare such an uncompromising defence of high literacy, but Steiner's zeal - "passion" is his chosen word - is persuasive and infectious. Reading him is like consulting your conscience; he never stops making a thrilling case for all those books we keep meaning to read some day.

It is telling, however, that his analysis of the painting chooses not to oignant courtliness. Reading, in this mention the fact that the man in the Utopia, is a ceremonious ritual; a picture is not actually reading; he is posing for a picture. Steiner talks of his "full engagement" with the text, but in mal occasion that calls for serious truth he looks like a man forcing himself not to look up and give the game away. It might well be a mark of reading's high status in former times that painters should wish to present it with such pomp - any sociologist would find it an inevitable product of moving plea, even if, in summary, it a time when reading was a rich man's game. Steiner unfashionably insists on taking the image literally, as the representation of a state of mind and a way of life, as if it were capturing an unguarded moment. But a true reader, in command of the strenuous absorpto castigate the rest of us for not being tion accorded to him by Steiner, would never dream of letting a painter fuss away in the corner while he studied.

This is precisely the kind of criticism Steiner least likes - nit-picking, clever-Socrates, Plato, Kierkegaard, Tolstoy. clogs pedantry with no aim other than Wittgenstein, Heidegger, the Bible, to subvert the grandeur of art. His own Shakespeare, Kafka and Homer - it is approach has little time for such pretty certain that anyone reading (or narcissistic quibbling. The pseudoreviewing) his work will be less learned scientific theorising which comprises

the present critical fashion is a sign of iar terms with the greats, in their own symptom of a prevailing nihilism. Steiner has a wide evangelical streak: in an age where culture is seen as a leisure-lifestyle option. like watching TV only harder, he insists that literature matters, that it is a high and solemn (though ambiguous and comic) manifestation of humanity's creative power. Artistic creations are to him concrete facts ("real presences" in his phrase) which we neglect at our peril.

western civilisation: how can the Judgeo-Christian tradition which produced such soul-stirring and noble work also have produced the Holocaust? This is the philosophical dilemma which all his reading and writing strives to address. Not content to see this horrendous fact merely as a paradox, he insists that it is not a paradox at all - that there is something in the love of high art which actually inspires barbarism.

This sombre proposal flies in the face of the Victorian conviction that literature is good for you. Like many 19th century reflexes, this one has survived obstinately into our own age. Indeed, the idea of classic art as therapeutic might even be one of the reasons for its relative unpopularity. We assume that things which are good for us must be hard to swallow - like bitter medicine - and so approach masterpieces with reluctant obedience. Steiner isn't like that. He is on famil- of the pain, of the despair which all our

impatience, he feels, and worse, a languages. It is not that he drops names; he has a wonderfully safe pair of hands and catches nearly everything. But there is a certain strutting vigour in the rollcall of genius in these pages.

All the time, though, beneath the

dizzy web of cultural cross-reference,

Steiner sounds a continuous bass note of humanist concern. Whether in his fine, if dreadfully titled, novella The Portage to San Christobel of AH, his wonderfully supple consideration of Throughout his career, in both fic- the arguments against Shakespeare, tion and non-fiction, he remains his far-reaching tribute to Kafka, or the the devastating apologia in which he haunted by a central conundrum in many philosophical debates in his claims to have been responsible for the fiction, he never ceases to regard literature as an aspect of life, rather than the other way around. These essays reveal him to be, apart from everything else, a vibrant narrator of the tragedy of Judaism. His interest is in the relations between words and the world, the relations between man and God (or godlessness) and the relations between civilisation and brutality. There aren't many critics, if any, who combine an attentiveness to the minutiae of texts with so powerful and broad

a central thrust. Nor is he some ivory tower-monger trying to sell the virtues of high culture. Many times in these essays he sneers at "the retreat of literature into museum cabinets". And much as he hates the fast-food culture, he still permits one of the characters in his superb short story "Proofs" to defend it: "I wonder whether even these things are inflicting on man a fraction

Athens, all our high culture have inflicted. They rocked around the clock not long ago to raise millions for charity. They lectured on Kant and played Schubert and went off the

same day to stuff thousands into gas

These hard thoughts occasionally emerge sounding a bit rum. In his fic-tion, especially, Steiner gives his characters dialogue which veers from the rabbinical to the everyday with something like tipsiness. The climactic speech of Adolf Hitler in The Portag rebirth of Israel, is inspired as well as clever, but at other times people help themelves to a "snifter of brandy", say "Bleeding Jesus" or "make a hash" of things. When he stoops to idiom, we can almost sense Steiner holding his nose. The dialectical arguments are brilliantly plotted and sustained, but characters rarely leap from the page, however fast their minds race. Still, in his fiction, every bit as much as in his elaborately wordy essays, there is always the unmistakeable sense of language under pressure from thought, of a man pushing words uphill, up to where the light is. One can nit-pick, but these two fresh volumes remind us of his singular, forceful excellence. Maybe the nicest thing about him is that he pays us the compliment of presuming everyone to be as preoccupied with the central questions of humankind as he is. Of how many other contemporary writers or thinkers can that be said?

Miss Anna's feeling for mud

The master of Danish magic realism is back . . . with his first novel. Hugo Barnacle furrows his brow

This is the third of Peter Hoeg's nov- The History of Danish Dreams els to be published here, following Miss Smilla's Feeling for Snow and Borderliners, but it was the first to be written, and originally appeared in Denmark tr. Barhara Haveland in 1988. Anyone looking for a meta-physical thriller à la Smilla will be disappointed, as it is a magical-realist family saga, but this genre still attracts plenty of customers, if the sales of Salman Rushdie's latest effort are any-

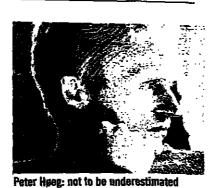
thing to go by.

The rules dictate that the story covers three generations - grandparents, parents and narrator - because that is the extent of most people's family history. Hoeg is mildly unusual in paying thor-ough attention to both sides of the family, an approach which takes up so much space that the narrator himself only gets born in the closing pages. There is no central character.

First we hear about Carl Laurids. scheming secretary to the Count of Morkhoj. The Count a conservative type, walled up his estate and stopped all the clocks in the 18th century. He only dies in 1918, when ambitious Carl starts the clocks again. Carl then embraces the future by becoming a dealer in machineguns and suchlike.

Meanwhile, Amalie Teander is growing up in a family that owns a provincial

by Peter Hoeg Harvill, £14.99



newspaper. The paper predicts all events in advance and the Teander household is run according to a strict schedule: wedding invitations specify the weather for the day and the birthdates of the couple's future children. However, when the wise old matriarch dies the paper gets its pre-

dictions wrong and goes bust. Amalie

escapes a descent into genteel poverty by marrying flash Carl. They have a son called Carsten who becomes Denmark's after another. top lawyer.

Meanwhile again - the continual scene-changing recalls Snoopy's forever unfinished epic "It Was a Dark and Stormy Night", which has a similar pattern - young Anna Bak is being raised as a reincarnation of the Virgin Mary by her father, a hellfire preacher in a hilar-iously squalid fishing village. Anna, understandably, runs off with Adonis, a stagehand in a touring theatre company.

Adonis comes from a long line of petty criminals but has decided to go straight. Hoeg checkily claims that prominent 20th-century Danes like the architect Meldahl and the business magnate H.N.Andersen were really Adonis's brothers but fied about their origins. Decent if improvident Adonis marries

Anna, and their daughter Maria, a slum runaway, marries high-flying Carsten to produce the narrator, for what that's worth. As with all magical-realist work, anything is possible so nothing is surprising. The Count lives for 200 years, Maria's pregnancy lasts six. Anna's spotless tenement flat hovers at first-floor level while the rest of the building sinks into the mud. Amalie's grandfather, instead of growing wrinkled with age, grows

Hoeg's writing is rather better than his material - cool and even, no post-modern punning, the humour mostly quiet and oblique. The characters are more roundedly alive than Rushdie's, or Marquez's for that matter. But the book does suffer from first-novel disease in patches. The clearest symptom is the presentation of clichés as if they were fresh, hard-won insights. "History is always an invention, a fairy-tale built upon certain clues," for example. Or, "Children take in more, a great deal more,

than we give them credit for."

An odd variation on this is the presentation of universal clichés as if they applied only to Denmark. Hoeg contends that only Danish actresses flirt in the wings and then portray sensitive nobility on stage; that only the Danish bourgeoisic indulges in hypocrisy; that only Danish parents prefer children to be good-looking and successful; and that only in Denmark is the power elite so

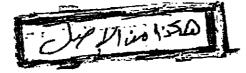
cosily corrupt. This may, however, be meant as a running joke, or an allusion to Hamlet's comment, "Denmark is a prison," and Horatio's reply, "Then is the world one." Peter Høeg is not a writer to be under-

Who's reading whom?

found Miss Smilla's Feeling for Snow' by Peter Høcg (Flamingo) at the top of her pile of holiday reading



Deter Høeg's whodunnit-with-a-message set in the Arctic Circle is beautifully written and gripping all the way through. But despite being a terrific story -chases, Eskimos, and acres of snow - there are minor flaws. The ending is pretentious beyond belief and our heroine suffers and survives so many injuries that she would be better suited to a Tom and Jerry cartoon. Deep down I can't help feeling that Miss Smilla's sensibilities about snow are really those of a Mr Smilla. Hoeg doesn't get her quite right as a women. Her reaction to the opposite sex doesn't ring true and he is unable to conjure wafting female emotion. There's something wrong with her clothes too. We're told that she is attractive to men but she spends her whole time putting on vests. The tesult is a rather solid Eskimo.





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How to tell a nerd from a geek: Nicholas Wroe logs on to the latest in high-tech, new-age fiction

alf-way through this engaging techno-entertainment. Daniel Underwood, the diarist-narra- by Bouglas Coupland tor is quizzed by his perplexed mother: "What, exactly," she asks, "is the difference between a nerd and a geek?" The answer is that geeks have more saleable skills - "geek implies wealth" - but it is the fact the question has been asked that affords most pleasure to the reader. I'd already worked out what a geek was and so, flatteringly, had become an insider apparently conversant with the strange and important new world of computer technology from which Moms, and other civilians. are usually excluded.

Douglas Coupland made his name with the hugely influential Generation X in which a cast of ennui-ridden twentysomethings drifted through the confusion of modern America. He was credited with articulating the voice of this ironic slacker generation who find themselves over-educated and under-employed for the McJobs (low pay and no future in a service industry) they are obliged to take. In Microserfs he maintains his facility for cultural trendsporting at a time when the Internet and all its works have entered the mainstream.

We meet the leading characters sharing a company house on the Microsoft campus in Seattle in late 1993. They are coders, "bug checkers", on products just like the one this review is being typed on. They are all employed by, and obsessed with, the Microsoft corporation and its owner ("B-B-B-B-B-B-I-L-L!") Gates. They are committed to their jobs but painfully aware of the conflict between their role in the exciting revolution to change the way the world operates, and what they actually do every day, which is monotonous and time-consuming work for relatively

Coupland's depiction of life within Microsoft is cerily convincing: the voluntary conformity, the slobbishness of maths students, the relentless youthfulness. "It's like the year 1311, where everyone over 35 is dead or maimed," someone says. But whereas, Flamingo, £9.99

say, Upton Sinclair, in The Jungle brutally exposed capitalist industrial production in the Chicago stockyards, for microserfs, politics is simply not a nerdy (or a geeky) enough preoccu-pation. The main issue is therefore not reward or exploitation. What drives this novel is how these people can get a life, which means first working out

Michael, who the others are in awe of because he can recite pi to thousands of decimal places, leaves to set up a new company in Silicone Valley and asks the others to join him. They do. Along with Dan comes his girl-friend Karla, Bug, the grouchy old man of 31, Todd the bodybuilder and Susan who resigned from Microsoft the day after she was given stock for long service. They set up shop in Dan's parents' house where they work even harder but grow as people, as they strive to be part of a "One-Point-Oh", an original, personal and professional project. If it sounds a little like a hightech, new-age Famous Five book, that's a little how it reads (there's even a cute dog) but the detail of techie-life manages, just, to compensate for a formulaic narrative and fifth-form soul-searching angst.

Coupland invests the world in which these people operate with an alluring sense of sexiness and importance. In a world where nobody has a two-digit IQ even the claim that because we are, as a society, so poor our only legacy will be computer codes so, "code is the architecture of the nineties", becomes convincing. The characters' love of Lego and early Eighties British pop music is endearing and their nostalgia for the certainties their industry is helping to undermine is affecting. That the ending is vapidly sentimental simply reinforces the sense that the triumph of this tale is in the telling.



Tunnel vision: Epileptic, asthmatic and house mother to 18 cats, Cathy is one of "the mole people", inhabitants of a huge disused underground train tunnel in New York City. Some have shelters made of cinder blocks and plywood, others live precariously on ledges and niches. Some go out to bars, some forage for cans in the early morning, some never leave their hovels. Their tales of blighted lives, debt and drugs are beyond wretchedness, in a realm of existential weirdness oddly like Beckett's The Lost Ones. Margaret Morton's photographs in The Tunnel (Yale £30) are a testament to "unaccommodated man".

Battlefield in the heart of a reluctant hero

The great Italian writer Antonio Tabucchi has created a character with a life beyond the page. By Harriet Paterson

A string of good books stretches out behind Antonio Tabucchi, the leading Italian fiction author, but by Antonio Tabucchi this time he appears to have outstripped all his previous work, Declares Pereira rode the best-seller list in Italy for month after month and has been made into a forthcoming film with European heavyweights Daniel Auteuil and Marcello Mastroianni. Tabucchi's work translates well in all senses - there is no need for any special knowledge of Italy, nor of Portugal, his adopted second country, to appreciate this fine and sensitive novel.

Like Requiem, Tabucchi's last book, Declares Pereira is set in Lishon. But the year is 1938, during a sultry summer overshadowed by the activities of the Salazar regime and its Fascist police. A very reluctant hero is about to be created.
"I'm old, I'm fat and I've got heart trouble," says Pereira, cultural editor of a second-rate evening paper, who has a fondness for omelettes and 19th-century French literature. He is virtually a Maupassant character, with his mediocre life, his dismal little office continually pervaded by the smell of frying, his small routines.

Although Pereira is uneasily aware of the "reek of death" in Portugal as in the rest of Europe, he shuns political involvement; "The whole world is a problem and it certainly won't be solved by you or me," he says defensively. The book describes the enormous upheaval in his hitherto undisturbed universe as he is taken to task for this negligence. "Are you living in another world?" a friend upbraids him, "for goodness' sake go and find out what's happening around you."

He doesn't have to go far. A political conscience walks into his life in the form of a young activist couple who flush him out of his ideological burrow. Both provoke obscure feelings of tenderness in him - the young to a thoroughly unified examination man reminds him of himself as a boy. the girl is young and beautiful. Pereira helps them despite himself, for this is more than just an encounter between abstract principles. As pendent of the t Tabucchi once said: "I prefer a ily framed him.

by Antonio Tabucchi Translated by Patrick Creagh Harvill, £9.99

philosophy in which one perceives that the intellectual thought is linked to an emotional aspect, to the viscera, to the soul." He maintains the balance between these elements to perfection. This is a political book concerned with the dangers of fascism, highly relevant today despite the historical setting, but Tabucci has chosen to place the whole battlefield in Pereira's

not very robust heart.

Dealing tactfully with a shy man, the author appears to skirt around Pereira's feelings: "On this subject he has no wish to make further statements." Yet this is deceptive, for a later phrase will suddenly reveal a glimpse of the sea-changes taking place within the bewildered journalist, whose life now seems meaningless in comparison with the belief and vitality of the young couple: "... he had been living as if he were dead ... perhaps his life was merely a remnant and a pretence." Now his chance has come to get involved, and to discover his own capacity for

Tabucchi engages with his protagonist as never before, making Pereira's awkward evolution an intensely human odyssey. Where the narrator of Requiem talks to ghosts, for example, Pereira confides his worries aloud to the photograph of his dead wife – so much more pathetic, and truer.

Tabucchi's writing has taken on a new departure. It is less abstract and cerebral, more directly concerned with character than in the past. Surrealism and dreamlike ambiguity have given way to firmer ground of the transformation of a man's heart. Tabucchi has created that rare thing, a literary character so real that he possesses a life independent of the book that temporar-

Paperbacks -----

Reviewed by Emma Hagestadt and Christopher Hirst



Lord Gnome's Literary Companion edited by Francis Wheen (Verso, £11.95)

Private Eye's scourge of sacred cows leaves no laurel in place. whether toppling "grand old stagers" (I. Murdoch, K. Amis, A. Brookner), or tracing the way today's reviewers and writers scratch one another's familiar backs. Essays on John Updike (see "Sentenced to Hard Labia"), and The Hundred Years Waugh, expose the sillier cul de sacs of Grub Street glory.



Behind the Scenes of the Museum by Kate Atkinson (Black Swan, 6.99)

Conceived above a pet shop in York, and born just in time to see the Queen's coronation on Dad's new TV, Ruby Lennox is one of a long line of frustrated Yorkshire women thwarted by war, poverty, and bad marriages. Atkinson's evocation of a Fifties girlhood is jammed with Northern common sense and impish good humour. The winner of this year's Whithread First Novel Award.



The Faber Book of Murder edited by Simon Rae (£9.99)

While admitting that murder is "sordid, ugly, brutal, horrible". Rae also insists it is "intrinsically interesting". His gory trawl supports the first more than the second view. By stressing the climax, we learn little of the circumstances of crime. There are generous servings from the great murder queens, but the real star is Dickens. One is left with the impious thought: does anyone read the verse bits of anthologies?



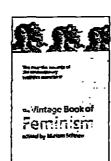
Kenneth Tynan Letters edited by Kathleen Tynan (Minerva, 12.99)

When Kenneth Tynan couldn't get down to his reviews, articles or books, he wrote letters: taking as much trouble to entertain and charm Laurence Olivier as he did his accountant or his dentist. The most endearing thing about Tynan's correspondence - and this vast collection spans the years from Birmingham schoolboy to LA exile - is how the precocious and gleeful 16-year-old in him never quite grew up.



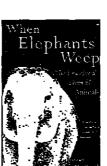
In God's Country by Douglas Kennedy (Abacus, £7.99)

Touring the US Bible Belt brings this American-born, Londonbased writer into contact with an assorted mix of the born-again, including former Mafioso Rev. Tony Waters, Christian heavymetal band Stryper and Rev Herb Shreve of the 28,000-strong Christian Motorcycle Assoc (motto: 'Run for the Son'). Nonbeliever Kennedy gives them a fair hearing but more historical context would have helped.



The Vintage Book of Feminism edited by Miriam Schneir (£7.99)

Modern feminism's greatest hits including classic extracts from Simone de Beauvoir, Gloria Steinem, and Susan Faludi - now gathered together in one handy volume. The thumbnail sketches of each author are deftly executed, and Schneir has selected all those essays you feel you should have read but never got round to - including Anita Hill's Statement to the Senate Judiciary Committee.



When Elephants Weep by Jeffrey Masson and Susan McCarthy (Vintage, £6.99)

This fascinating defence of anthropomorphism is based on Darwin's view that man and the higher animals have similar "passions, affections and emotions". Long-term studies (Fossey on gorillas, Goodall on chimps) and a wealth of examples show that our "evolutionary cousins" experience feelings as we do. It is convenient sophistry for man to argue otherwise.



Jerusalem Commands by Michael Moorcock (Phoenix 6.99)

In the third, penultimate, and weakest volume of Michael Moorcock's chronicles of Colonel Pyatt, the Colonel continues doing what he does best: betraying friends, committing social injustices and consorting with the rich and famous. An anti-Semite born at the century's opening. Pyatt stands as Moorcock's vision of the ultimate bad faith of our age, and seems headed for an urgent appointment in Auschwitz.



A Month and a Day by Ken Saro-Wiwa (Penguin, £6.99)

Written in 1993, this is a brilliant account of Saro-Wiwa's first spell in prison and the irresistible impetus which forced him - like so many Nigerian writers - to adopt a political stance. His book is also a scathing indictment of Nigeria's thuggish rulers and the oil interests whose "godlike 'we can do no wrong' attitude" is only too recognisable. It is unsurprising that the regime wanted to be rid of such an articulate opponent.



Capone: The Man and the Era by Laurence Bergreen (Pan. £8.99)

All those rat-a-tat gunfights in gangster flicks are no exaggeration. In 1928 there were 367 killings in Chicago. Packed with anecdote, Bergreen's reassessment of the infamous mob boss is more thrillingly absorbing than any crime fiction. Personally genial, Capone was also a ruthless psychopath, his judgement blurred by syphilis. A scabrous portrait of the Chicago press corps is not the least of this book's pleasures.

we recommend

The Revolt of Owain Glyn Dwr by R.R. Davies (Oxford, £20) Conspiratorial politics, dynastic pretensions, guerrilla tactics and lofty ideals in the scramble for self-rule led by Wales's most famous son in the 14th

The Letters of Dorothy L. Sayers edited by Barbara Reynolds (Hodder, £25) The genesis of a detective writer through 37 years of correspondence. from high-spirited bluestocking to mother of an illegitimate child, caught between her feelings and the constraints of society.

Rasero by Francisco Rebolledo, trans. Helen Lane (Weidenfeld, £16.99) Stunning novelistic debut which conjures the ordures and odours of the age of Enlightenment as brilliantly as the intellectual, artistic and sexual vigour of its protagonists.

Shula's Story by Joanna Toye (BBC Books, £9.99) From star-crossed teenager to untimely widow, Ambridge's damsel of a thousand disasters is caught for Archers addicts between hard covers.

Drink: An Informal Social History by Andrew Barr (Bantam, £16.99) Travels around the palate of social drinking from the ravages of 18thcentury gin epidemics to tamer fetishes. culminating with the odd fancies for bottled water and Australian Chardonary in the present century.

Noel Coward: A Biography by Philip Hoare (Sinclair-Stevenson, £25) Witty and intimate portrait of the Master, written with the co-operation of (most of) the Coward Fan Club and offering for the first time the low-down on his absorbing sex life.

Happy Days by Beryl Cook (Gollancz, £14.99) More leopardskin lycra, bouffant hairstyles and bespectacled voyeurs living it up in the nightclubs of Tenerife, the tango bars of Buenos Aires and the public library. The recently OBE-d Cook confirms her strength as a benignly wicked social satirist.





Seeds of faith

In bleak mid-winter Anna Pavord looks forward to some exotic summer visitors: among them 'Jewel of Africa', 'Hippy Mixed' and 'Zulu Prince'

study window, and I am looking at a packet of Venidium 'Zulu Prince', in a kind of disbelief exist in the garden. A blue tit is swinging from the blackened six-foot stalk of a sunflower in the border outside. Even the tough old hellebores have crumpled up with cold and here am I planning to grow South African daisies, bred on the veldt, while the thermometer hauls itself up to a grudg-

ing 25F.
Venidiums are unusual among annual flowers in having good leaves. Annuals don't usually bother much about their foliage. Most of them are hell-bent on setting seed, which means hanging out a flower seductive enough to tempt a passing insect from the straight and narrow, without resorting to leaves. But these "monarchs of the veldt", as they are called, have deeply lobed leaves, silvery white and rather woolly in texture.

The flowers are usually a rich saturated orange, but 'Zulu Prince' (Thompson & Morgan, £1.59) has creamy white flowers, the petals arranged ~ rather like a sunflower's around a dark central disc. Well grown, they can be up to four inches across on plants about two feet high, doing best in light, sandy soil in a sunny spot.

For summer flowering outside, you ering them very thinly with more themselves up through the lower compost moist. Germination will take between two and three weeks at a temperature of around 60-65F. Prick the seedlings into individual three-inch pots and grow them until the weather is warm enough for them to be set outside. They will flower until the first

Venidiums also make good early spring pot plants for a frost-free conservatory. For this, you need to sow in August or September and shift the plants eventually into five- or six-inch pots of compost, where they can stay until they have finished flowering.

The foxgloves I sowed in mid-June came to nothing. A mole homed in on the seedbed and piggy-backed foxgloves, asters, catananche and polemonium so dizzily around the area that they never recovered. So I'll have to start again this year. I fancy 'The Shirley' (Chiltern, 98p), with vast spikes of pink, cream and plum, spotted and blotched

here is ice on the inside of the with darker colours and 'Apricot' is tall and beautifully scented. It grows

that flowers like this could ever a climbing nasturtium with variegated leaves, the 'Jewel of Africa' (£1.89), which fills an important gap and is on my list this year.

'Alaska' has been the usual choice if you wanted a variegated nasturtium, but that is a bush, not a climber. Tewel of Africa' has flowers in mixed colours: 'Empress of India' on 9 May last year and it flowered prodigiously all summer, sharing a hot bit of the bank with the English pot marigold, Touch of

Among their new perennials, Thompson & Morgan is also offering seed of a herbaceous geranium. G pratense striatum (£2.99), which I had from a friend a few years ago. It has the useful ground-covering habit of all this tribe, and the flowers are like willow-pattern china, the white petals streaked and striped with blue. Some of the petals are neatly divided down the middle, white one side, blue the other. I'm going to raise some more not too much heat, transplanting them plants to set in long grass. Cranesbills, the plain blue kind, grow quite vigorously along roadside verges, though need to sow the seeds in March or they seem to do better on the high April, scattering them on the surface chalklands than they do in our clayof a five-inch pot of compost and cov- lined lanes. In the garden they haul compost or vermiculite. I generally branches of the musk rose 'Felicia', wrap pots in clingfilm to keep the which has pale trusses of pinkish-apricot flowers.

Suttons is introducing a new tobacco flower called 'Hippy Mixed' (£1.99), which is neither scentless nor dwarf two steps in the right direction. The flowers are a mixture of crimson, rose, purple and white and the plants go up to about two feet. I sowed tobacco flowers on the 26 March last year and had four trayfuls of plants to put out among the artemisias in the front borders. As with venidiums, you should sow as thinly as possible in a pot, but do not cover the seeds with compost. They need light for germination, which should happen within two weeks. Wrap the pot in clingfilm after you have watered it and allowed it to drain. Keep it at a temperature of around 65F until the seeds have sprouted.

Chilterns has the species Nicotiana affinis (89p), which may have contributed its two-penn'orth to the 'Hippy Mixed' strain of tobacco plants, for it

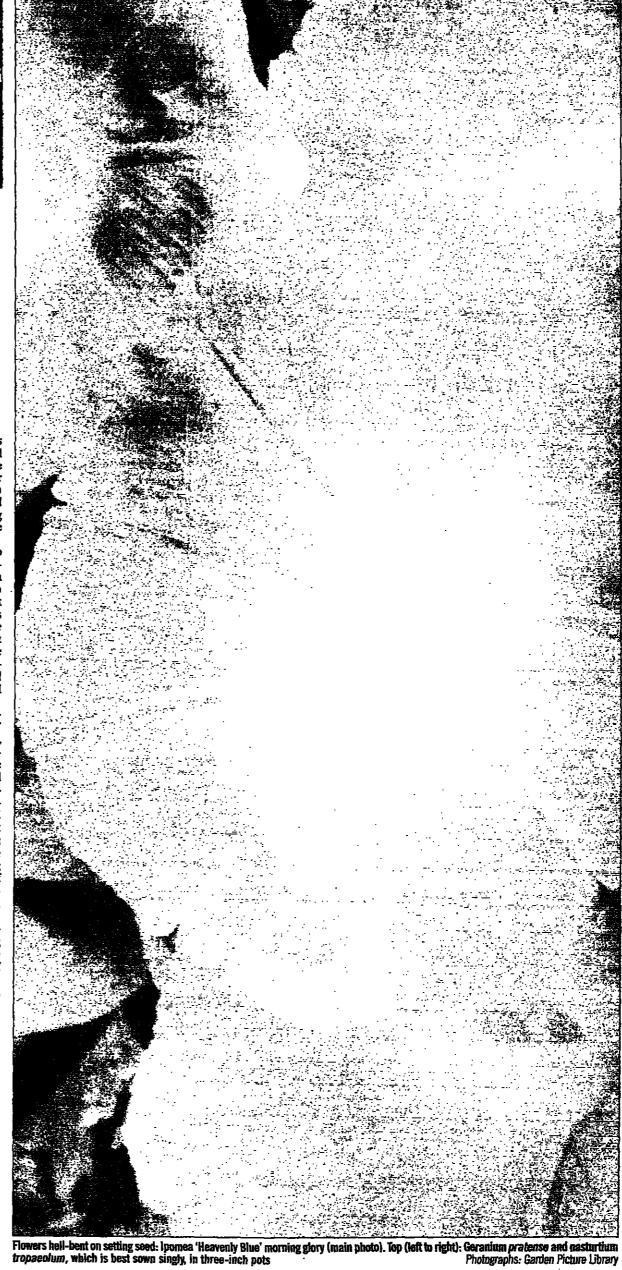
(Chiltern, 84p) which has slightly to about three feet and has star-shaped smaller spikes of soft, creamy apricon.
Thompson & Morgan is introducing the first frosts. These were once popular and interest of the star and the sta white flowers which continue until the first frosts. These were once popular conservatory plants, potted up into individual pots. Treated this way and kept frost-free, they revert to being perennials as they are in their native

Morning glory can also be used to decorate greenhouses and conservatories, though it does equally well on orange, red and yellow. Seeds are easy to grow, sown singly in three-inch pots, then wrapped in clingfilm until they germinate. I sowed the dark-leaved to be in too much of a hurry. The seedlings sulk spectacularly if you put them out too early, when the nights are still chilly, and then get so stuck in sulking mode they never recover. You will know if this has happened because all colour drains out of the leaves.
Suttons has the morning glory Ipo-

moea rubro-coerulea, 'Heavenly Blue' (95p), which you could sow in April, setting each seed in a separate threeinch pot wrapped in clingfilm. Soak the seed overnight first to soften the hard seed coat. Germination will take anything from 10-15 days, but the temperature needs to be high, around 70F. Grow the plants with plenty of light but if necessary into bigger pots before hardening them off gradually. During this period, they may need staking. If you want to grow them in a conservatory, the plants should be potted again into eight-inch pots.

Convolvulus tricolor has funnelshaped flowers which, like morning glory's, fade by the afternoon, but are much smaller. They are born in the leaf axils of bushy plants, about 12-15in high. 'Flagship Mixed' (Mr Fothergills. £1.35) has trumpet flowers of red, white, blue and pink, all with a white eye. Sow in late March and prick out the seedlings into boxes of compost. Harden the plants off gradually in a cold frame before planting them out in May. They can be massed together in containers, or grown as an edging to a sunny path.

> Chiltern Seeds, Bortree Stile Ulverston, Cumbria LA12 7PB (01229 581137) Mr Fothergill's, Gazeley Rd, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7QB (01638 751161) Sutton Seeds, Hele Rd, Torquay, Devon TQ2 7QJ (01803 614455) Thompson & Morgan, Poplar Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3BU (01473)



Onion fanciers celebrate the UNew Year by sowing seed of their favourites. By the end of the summer these may have swelled to sufficiently mammoth proportions to beat the world record for onions (a mighty 11.5lb). Serious growers use deep seed trays, measuring about 15in x 9in x 4in and a loam-based seed compost such as John Innes No 1. Fill the tray with the compost and firm it down gently. Scatter the seed over the surface and cover it thinly with more compost. Water the tray and keep moist until the seeds have germinated, which they should do setting them 2 in apart. Correct



after two weeks. They do not need much heat. Aim for 55F anything much higher will inhibit germination.

While the seedlings still look like little croquet hoops, no more than 0.5in above the compost, prick them out into trays of John Innes No 2 compost,

should not be swamped, nor should they dry out. By mid-April, the seedlings

should be strong enough to be hardened off in a cold frame so that they can be planted out by early May. Serious fanciers save their own strains of seed, but Robinson's Improved Mammoth Onion gives suitably outrageous results; 100 seeds cost £2.30 from W Robinson & Sons Ltd, Sunny Bank, Forton, nr Preston, Lanes PR3 OBN (01524 791210).

has arranged a series of six about De Wiersse, his garden

watering is vital. The seedlings lectures starting on 7 February when Lord Rothschild introduces a talk by his daughter Beth Tomassini on the important Victorian gardens at Waddesdon, Buckinghamshire. On 14 February, owner Patrice Fustier talks about Courson in the Ile de France, where the English gardens were designed by the Empress Josephine's landscape archi-tect. On 21 February the focus moves to Scotland when Lord Dalkeith introduces a lecture by Fiona Jamieson on Drumlanrig, while on the 28 Feb-The Garden History Society ruary, Edward Gatacre talks

in the Netherlands, made in the English style. The March lectures cover La Mortola, the famous garden on the Italian Riviera made by the Hanbury family in the early years of the century, and the sub-tropical Tresco. Tickets (from Lynn Curtis, 43 Bourne St, London SW1W 8JA) cost £6 each, or you can book for the whole series (£30). Lectures start at 6pm on Wednesday evenings at the Scientific Societies Lecture Theatre, New Burlington Place, London W1.

Dose pruning has been revo-lutionised since trials at the Royal National Rose Society revealed that what hybrid tea roses respond to best is a quick haircut with a hedgecutter. Now there has been a similar upheaval in ideas about pruning fruit such as apples and pears. If you grow these as cordons, fans or espaliers, you will still have to prune them in summer to keep them in the shape you want, but standards and half standards growing in lawns can be left completely alone. Professional growers have found that tying down the branches so that they bend down in horizontal arches has a greater effect on fruiting than any pruning technique. Peg down the branches of young trees to start them off with the right habits.

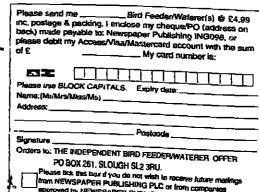
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Burning trees is good for you

At least that's the theory according to farmers who are adapting the ancient art of coppicing to combat global warming. By Daniel Butler

in growing trees to burn because it's good for the countryside." The Avon farmer Brian Maggs is proud of his apparently iconoclastic approach to the environment. There are thousands of acres across Britain doing nothing as set-aside. It would be far better to use them to grow an energy crop to reduce our use of fossil fuels."

He is convinced growing and burning wood to generate electricity is the environmentally friendly answer and has put his beliefs into practice by planting 10 hectares (24 acres) of poplar cuttings on his farm near Bath. He says wood for fuel is "green" in

Maggs's conviction that burning trees is an answer to global warming comes as a surprise to most people. After all, isn't the destruction of the rainforest one of today's worst environmental disasters and surely, burning creates carbon dioxide, the cause of rising world temperatures?

Not a bit of it, according to Maggs: "For three years my trees take carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. They provide shelter for wildlife and employment for men who would otherwise be laid off. Then they are burnt to produce electricity, putting no more gas back into the atmosphere than they absorbed as they grew. The stumps regenerate and three years later they're ready for another harvest.

The key to this approach lies in the centuries-old art of coppicing which makes use of the natural ability of many trees to survive being cut down, with new withes rocketing up from an established root network - far faster than a new seedling fighting to grow both underground and above the surface. Now coppicing looks set to undergo a revival as government researchers investigate using wood to generate electricity on an industrial scale.

In theory this makes good economic and environmental sense because a tree's growth is greatest during its early years and young trees are a particularly rich source of food and shelter for wildlife, "We counted 33 species of bird in our two-year-old wood, which is more than last year," says Maggs. "But that's probably the peak; we think they drop off again in the third year." This is fortunate, as it coincides with the three-yearly harvest.

In case the concept of growing fuel to compete with oil sounds implausible, it is worth remembering that until the 18th century, Britain was fuelled by wood and charcoal. Even today, some countries still take the principle very Most people are shocked to learn from wood," says Peter Billings of farmers to coppice is the whole reason for British Biogen," he explains. "We have to bridge the gap between an energy industry used to planning 15-20



Brian Maggs with two-year-old poplars in his coppice wood near Bristol

concerned about the next six months." The Government is helping by funding half-a-dozen trial projects around the country to establish the costs and project yields. Alec Barnes, a Devon farmer, is conducting one of these near Tiverton. He says he could only afford to invest in the scheme with the help of grants.

So far, the researchers - based at the Energy Technology Support Unit Agricultural Development Advisory Service) - are two years into their studseriously. The Swedes, for example, ies. Although the initial results are sion to build a plant," says Keith have 9,000 bectares of deciduous coperations, the scientists admit there. pice and even the US is not immune: is much to learn: "We still don't know tually we should be able to heat 16,000 enough about the crop," says Gareth Oregon gets 40 per cent of its electricity Ellis, woodland consultant for ADAS. "We only harvested our first trial sites British Biogen, the trade association for wood-burning interests. "Getting the experiment with the machinery and chips into gasses by intense heat and there are lots of questions to answer whether to leave the poles whole or chip them like silage, and which machine is least harmful to the stumps years ahead and farmers who are more left behind? Then, because it typically

contains about 50 per cent water which reduces its burning efficiency, we've got to work out how to dry it down to 30 per cent."

The results are sufficiently encouraging, however, for the energy industry to be interested. Three woodfuelled power stations are in the pipeline - to be built near Eye in Suffolk. Swindon in Wiltshire and Selby in Yorkshire. The last of these is being (ETSU) and ADAS (formerly the developed by Yorkshire Environmental, a subsidiary of Yorkshire Water: "We're applying for planning permis-

> The plant, which should come on line in late 1997, uses the latest gassipressure. The result is surprisingly efficient, converting 30-45 per cent of the available energy into electricity, compared with 20-25 per cent in a conventional coal plant. Many remain

sceptical: "The technology is investors in new technology are guar- to have various outlets. If you're depenunproven," admits Ellis. "Critics say it's anteed high prices for 15 years. This in one step too far - an untried crop being used in untried technology."

Keith Pitcher dismisses this with a shrug: "We know from experience with wind power that prices will come down as the technology is more fully under-stood," he says. "We'll get an industry emerging from this and as the yields from the trees improve, returns will be better for everyone."

per kW, compared with 5.3p for wind power. In contrast, gas costs about 2p and coal around 3p. Underwriting Yorkshire's investment is the Non-Fossil Fuel Obligation (NFFO), a commitment placed on electricity compa-NFFOs (three have been negotiated so far and a fourth is in progress), the only way you can keep prices up is says Barnes.

turn means Pitcher can provide a longterm market to local farmers, allowing them to establish coppices while he waits for his plant to be built: "One of the reasons we are going ahead is to break the vicious cycle of no market until there's a product and no product until there's a market," he says.

Although he refuses to give details, Yorkshire is believed to be offering industrial estates which are interested For all his enthusiasm, however, about £20 a ton. With the research in small plants. The great thing about Pitcher has to concede he cannot com- showing possible annual yields of up wood is once you have located your pete with gas on price. The Renewable to 45 tons per hectare, this could be Energy Bureau estimates wood-pow- enough: "At £20 a ton, farmers should ered electricity costs an average of 8.7p be able to get about the same profit as they do on winter wheat," says

In Devon, Alec Barnes is unconvinced: "It's not worth going into unless you can get £25 a ton," he says. As a result he is looking with interest nies to buy a percentage of their power at a neighbour who is experimenting from sustainable sources. Under with making composite boards from coppiced wood. "As with any business.

dent on one customer, you're at his

mercy," he explains. In the end, however, the real driving force behind wood power may lie not with relatively big plants, but on a smaller scale: "The advantage of wood energy is it is very flexible," says Dr Keith Richards, ETSU's deputy manager for Biomass Resources and Statistics. "We have several housing and

user, you can design the plant around "Wood is only expensive if you are talking about selling the power wholesale, but if you are producing the energy on a small-scale rural site it is very competitive, agrees Peter Billings. In the end this is the attraction for Brian Maggs and Alec Barnes, who

both intend to use their coppices to

heat their homes and businesses: "We

should make money by saving money,"

Splattered with mud, blinded by fog, a walk through nothingness, but a fine way to start the year

Word had gone round the village that the New Year Walk would assemble outside the shop at 10.30 on Monday morning. At 10.29 there was no one in sight, but in the next two minutes 15 human starters and one dog materialised.

Our leader was Ron Robins – a tall, lean, fit-looking 59-year-old, who, with his wife, Margaret, owns the shop and runs the post office. Like most of the others present, I was uneasily aware that in 1992 these two walked by a roundabout route from John O'Groats to Land's End, covering 1,400 miles in 100 days. So did Max, their black mongrel, like a sawn-off labrador, whose ebullience on New Year's Day was such as to suggest that he was hoping for a repeat performance.

After a quick head count, Ron announced that because fog was lying on the hills, we would head down the valley first and come back over the top, in the hope that by then the mist might have lifted. His aim was a twoand-a-half-hour walk, ending at the Old Crown on the green.

Away we went, out of the village on to footpaths and down across the fields. Our little column proved agreeably flexible: we tended to bunch at stiles, then spread out again. The result was that I kept falling in with new companions, some of whom I knew, some strangers.

At first there was much talk of the weather. "We'd never have done this on Saturday," said somebody - nor would we, for Saturday was the vilest and most dangerous day that anyone could remember. Freezing rain, hitting frozen ground, turned every



DUFF **HART-DAVIS**

smooth surface to glass and made it impossible to stand up on the slightest slope. Now, as we trudged, the bone was still in the ground but at least the top had thawed to greasy

At any point where there was a possibility of error, Ron waited genially to shepherd his flock, and Margaret handed out reviving peppermints. On the move, they talked of their big hike. They walked the length of Britain not to raise funds, but merely for a holiday. Yet as they headed south, people began to offer them money, and when they returned to base in Gloucestershire, Max proved such a charmer that fans sponsored him to the tune of £2,500, enough to provide a trained guide dog for the blind. The couple also raised £600 for

the village church. As we went round the back of the eminence known as Smallpox Hill, Ray, who had lived in the village all his life, admitted that he had never been able to find any trace of the isolation hospital that once stood on its summit. All the same, he reckoned that the hill was a spooky old place. especially when shrouded in mist.

When we passed Coldharbour Farm - what a name, on that morning - the talk turned to hornets, which nest in a long wooded gully known as The Delkin, and we wondered if the poor creatures could have survived the recent bitter cold. Speaking of natural history, one woman disclosed that she has inherited a collection of birds' eggs, some with labels in Arabic, and finds herself in some difficulty, since possession of such things is now illegal.

As we ground up to the 700ft ridge of Cam Long Down, Ron, ever the optimist, predicted that we might come out into the sun on top. Far from it: the air was colder, the fog thicker, the view - normally spectacшаг – zeтo.

A steep grass descent caused some spectacular falls, and left Elliott, one of the teenagers, plastered in mud all up the back of his red lumberjack shirt. Then came a hard pull up to Uley Bury, an extensive Iron Age fort crowning the next-door hill; half a lan of the Roman race-track that skirts its perimeter, and over one of the precipitous earth ramparts, down which I like to imagine the defenders rolling rocks on wild, red-headed invaders from Wales.

And so at 2pm we piled into the cheerful fug of the Old Crown for a few pints of Uley bitter. We had achieved (and seen) practically nothing; but we had given ourselves a good workout and made new friends, and everyone felt that we had started 1996 in the best possible fashion.

A little local trouble

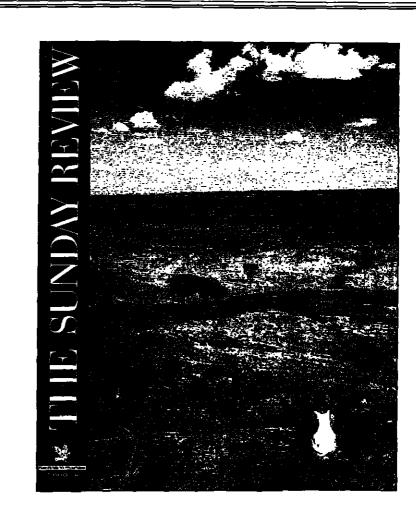
A weekly round-up of rural rows

o we really want ever-closer ties with the other members of the European Union? Not in Scalby and Newby, near Scarborough - at least not if the Royal Mail has its say. The problem began after the villages gave a traditional red phone box to their twin town, Pornic, in France, Gratefully received, the kiosk now houses a payphone. When the French reciprocated with a classic yellow letterbox, however, British post-office officials said "Non" to the idea of using it.

"We have recently invested, and continue to invest, a great deal of resources in upgrading all posting facilities to represent a national identity which reflects our national heritage," a Royal Mail spokesperson said this week. "Foreign post boxes for public use would dilute this effect." There would be no objection, she added, to erecting the box if sealed. Vive l'entente cordiale!

[Isewhere in Yorkshire: Townies Linnocent Of Destroying Rural Life Shock. The picturesque village of Egton on the North York Moors had supposedly been facing a familiar problem: rich outsiders buying weekend homes, pushing up prices and forcing the natives out. So the parish council set up a scheme to build five low-cost houses for locals. The trouble is no one wants them.

"People kept telling us they wanted these houses," the council's chairman, Tom Hutton, told the Yorkshire Post, "But where are these people now?" Unless five genuine Egtonite buyers are found soon, the £300,000 project will be scrapped.



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Plus: the first Sunday Review/ Panasonic writing competition

IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



WEEKENDS AWAY

As Austria celebrates its own private Millennium - it first became a national entity in 996 — we present two ways to spend 48 hours in Vienna: one glitzy, the other budget, both indulgent. Austria's imperial pretensions may have gone the same way as its wine exports, but Vienna remains one of Europe's tastiest destinations. Only in Austria's capital city could a sticky snack achieve the status of ritual, enjoyed while delicate café mirrors reflect the fine grain of dark wood and the finery of your fellow indulgees. In Vienna, East meets West and they go out for a jolly good feed. The icing on the cake? To mark the end of this century, the ideal time to sample fin de siècle ambience, air fares are at their lowest ever.

Simon Calder

Where to eat, what to see and how to get around in Vienna

By Sue Wheat

at 6.10pm. A return ticket costs £123 including tax, and allows you to return home on the last flight on Sunday, leaving Vienna at 6.30pm; book on 0345 222111 or through any agent. Low fares are also available on Austrian Airlines (from Heathrow, 0171-434 7300) and Lauda Air (from Gatwick and Manchester, 0171-630 5924).

If you prefer surface travel, a train from Waterloo via Brussels costs £321 and takes 18 hours.

Then check in ... at one of the hundreds of hotels listed by the Austrian National Tourist Office (0171-629 (461). The Pension Hargita (00 431 526 1928) strikes a good balance between location (central), comfort (spacious) and price (around £50 per night for a double room). Lonely Planet's City Guide: Vienna (£5.95) lists dozens of alternatives from "Bottom End" to "Over The Top".

naturday. Shop ... at one of the Main department stores on Kärntner Strasse or Graben. Vienna's most chic shopping areas in the first district, where bargains will be hard to find but elegance and

riday. Arrive ... at 9.15pm on the public toilets in this area are the British Airways flight which departs from Heathrow Nouveau toilets designed by Otto Nouveau toilets designed by Otto Wagner in the centre of Graben. For a multicultural, and more reasonably priced shopping experience, get the U4 metro line to Kettenbrückengasse and browse round the Naschmarkt on Linke Wienzeile. Here, Greek, Chinese, Arabic, Turkish, Mediterranean and Austrian stalls sell foods, crafts and clothes. Saturday is not the day to lie-in, however, as most shops close at noon. Even the Naschmarkt closes at 1pm, although its Flohmarkt (flea market) is open till 6pm.

Lunch: slurp ... an eighth of a litre of beer (and you can buy the tiny tankard as a souvenir) at Trzensniewski, a popular sandwich bar with the Viennese on Dorotheergasse. Or sip eine melange, a traditional Austrian coffee served with whipped milk, in the wonderfully atmospheric Café Leopold Hawelka. further down the street. For those with a sweet tooth, you shouldn't miss ordering cake with your coffee here, particularly Sachertorte - a chocolate cake to diet for. The traditional place to eat this is the luxury Hotel Sacher on Philarmonikerstrasse, but it can be bought at triets such as Grinzing (reached by quality are not in short supply. Even most of the kaffeehäuser around tram 38). For a less touristy experi-

Vienna. For an example of typical Viennese laid-back sophistication, go to the beautifully renovated Café Central in Herrengasse.

See ... Gustav Klimt's exhibition See ... Gustav Klimt's exhibition including his famous painting *The KIss* at Belvedere palace (open till 5pm), plus other 20th-century art. Then stroll through the grounds which provide an excellent view over the city, and back to central Vienna, past its various heautiful buildings. past its various beautiful buildings such as the stunning baroque church. Karlskirche at Karlsplatz, near the Ringstrasse. Walk past the Staatsoper (the Opera House) on Openring and check out if there's standing room if there is you'll get to see an opera for only 20 schillings. If you prefer having fun sitting down make your way to the Riesenrad, or Ferris wheel (of Orson Welles's The Third Man fame), in Prater amusement park, get strapped

in and see Vienna swirl. Drink and eat ... after going on rides in the Prater, especially if you're going to a Heuriger, where it's customary to drink the new wine of the season in vast quantities. Although these drinkers' dens serve wine, they have the casual feel of beer gardens more than wine bars and are found in Vienna's wine-growing dis-

ence, get tram D to Nussdorf and visit Schübel-auer Heuriger. Most Heurige and ordinary restaurants will offer Austrian dishes such as Knödel (dumplings), goulash and Wiener Schnitzel. Vegetarians are in for a hard time, .even toasted sandwiches generally include ham.

Ounday. Think ... about going to the Freud Museum at Berggasse 19 in the ninth district, where you can see the famed psychiatrist's consulting rooms, learn about his obsession with Egyptian art, and voyeuristically watch the Freud family's home cine films (which are refreshingly ordinary). But if your head is still spinning

from the night before, stay in bed. then get up leisurely, take tram N from Schwedenplatz metro and marvel at the Hundertwasserhaus - the most beautiful block of council flats you are ever likely to see. The now famous artist Friedensreich Hundertwassertransformed this ordinary grey residential building into a colourful and controversial piece of architecture based on an ecological philosophy of creating greater harmony between man and nature. Although the inside of the flats are out of bounds to tourists, the gallery opposite and Kunsthaus museum

and café (Untere Weissgerberstrasse 13) hidden round the corner give you a good idea of what the interior of the flats are like, with their colour-ful ceramic-tiled walls and trees growing out of the windows. Hundertwasser also removed all straight lines out of the buildings, so even the walls and floors are crooked. In the Kunsthaus restaurant you may want to place a Kunsthaus wooden wedge underneath your chair to stop it wobbling, and you can take the wedge home as a free souvenir.

Rest (but not for too long) ... on your way to the airport by stopping off at the Zentralfriedhof (the central cemetery), on the schnellbahn \$7 local train from Wien Mitte station.

Here you'll find the final response and places of some of the musicians and artists whose work you will undoubtedly have come across on your trip. To spot the big names among the 2.5 million or so graves, go to the cen-tral section and walk among the tomb stones of Beethoven, Brahms, Johann Strauss I & II and Schubert. The cemetery is so large that you can get on a bus to go round it, although you have much luggage the walk from the station to the cemetery might not be a good idea - unless you want to make it your final resting

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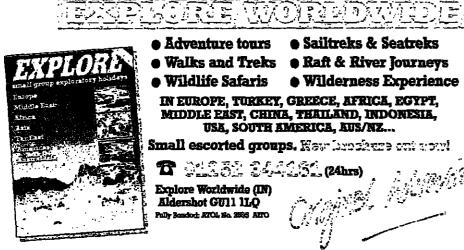
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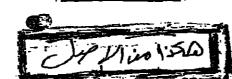
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A city that comes out in the cold

Simply everyone turned out for the opening night of the new Terence Conran-designed hotel, Das Triest, in Vienna. Reggie Nadelson checked in for a long weekend and, somewhat reluctantly, checked out the city

hotel; Austrians in natty suede waistcoats; girls and minutes-ago high style of a provincial European city; wannabe spies out of the orange box, starched, gleaming, silken; members of the international brotherhood of stainless steel sinks that resemble black clothing who might be poets. Or not. And here, on the elegant ground floor of the hotel, there is much merriment, much kissing of cheeks and air, maybe even of armchair. It has shining wood cuphands. I can't quite push this conceit to the clicking of beels. though - to Christopher Plummer as Baron Von Trapp – as everyone dashes for the Prexinct that flows like champagne.

The party takes place on all six floors of the hotel; the guests are in constant motion, inspecting and the huge bath and the lighted rooms and suites, tasting sushi in the restaurant and carrot canapés in the smart little gym where Euro-yuppies sample the machinery and perhaps recall that Arnie Schwarzenegger was born an Austrian. As I am swept up in welcome by Margit Frank, the hotel's owner. I assume that, this being my first trip to Vienna, everyone kisses ladies' hands. Or cuddles little lap doggies. Or resembles a character out of The Third Man. I can't help it. I think Vienna, I think architecture and music; whipped cream; Nazis, I think Vienna, I think decadence, irony, complaisance, waltzes and schnitzel and Freud; and Orson Welles on the big wheel in the Prater.

Das Triest is a six-story building about 10 minutes from St Stephen's Cathedral in the dead centre of the city. The hotel has been stunningly renovated. On this site, they tell me, there has been a hotel for as many as 300 years. From the penthouse terrace you can see Vienna frosted with snow, as if it were the work of some crazed confectioner on an acid bender. Winter is certainly Vienna's real season; soon the balls will begin and people carrying shoe bags will head out across town to do some serious waltzing.

Flares blaze on the terrace up here, party-goers brave the cold for oysters and Krug. But wait, sound system, he plays the great what's that? Why is Sir Terence Conran over there trying to wipe some imaginary dust off a wall?

"He'd actually like to rearrange several items, if you let him," says Vicki Davis, Conran's friend, Sir Terence, as they respectfully address him in Vienna (this is a town built for etiquette) - Sir Terence and his firm have designed Das Triest for Margit Frank.

And Frank is beaming. Charm-And Frank is ocalining. Charles seems in movies. This is where Franz Joseph who held sway over and white serve you with some ing, elegant, impeccating an alittle Orson Welles as Harry Lime conthe Austro-Hungarian Empire formality. I watch a perfect Viensheis a little flushed, a little

modern hotel in their backyard, it has all come to pass. And it is there I almost expect to see Welles in fedoras and pony-tails; Euro- was the birthplace of some of the women in Hermes scarves straight greatest of modern architecture.

Most designer hotels, tend to dark corridors, sharp edges and urinals. Not Das Triest. My room is on the sixth floor and has a large terrace. It has pristine yellow curtains, a blue carpet, a deep red boards and a desk large enough to work on. It has a bed as big as Austria with exquisite white linens by Frette. And the bathroom!

This is a bathroom with roots in the great Art Deco bathrooms of hotels like Claridges. All those white tiles, all those thick towels mirrors and glistening chrome fixtures. I could have spent the whole weekend right there.

Having checked out my deli-Down in the basement is a wine cellar where the suede waistcoats white wine and salami. We head for the bar, all blue light and stain-less steel and black-and-white photographs. But a bar, like steak, needs a little age.

Later that night, as the party at Das Triest winds down, everyone heads out to the American Bar in the centre of town. An extraordinary green marble cube with wood panels, it was designed by Adolf Loos, one of the most provocative of Vienna's turn-of-the-century moderns. A renegade architect of the Vienna Secession, Loos broke away from his already avant-garde cohorts to make even purer buildings, among them the Looshaus --"A building without eyebrows", it was called. "That's not a house he has built for us," someone said, "but a thought."

Still, Loos managed the American Bar, which is not a thought but a bar. The quintessential bar. A pair of couples linger passionately on the leather banquettes. A hip young bartender with red hair and a New Orleans accent mixes righteous cocktails and, on the Getz-Gilberto album. In the American Bar we drink Martinis, while outside snow falls on a where Mozart played for little silent Vienna.

Caturday: the Prater. Vienna's Hyde Park, Central Park, Bois Ude Boulogne. This has been the city's green space, its amusement park, since the middle of the 18th century. But for me, at least, it is nights. Then came the revolutions the site of the most evocative of 1848, then the endless reign of

The huge wheel, with its wooden

boys in the slightly five- spectacular. Das Triest is a on the thing, but there is barely a Vienna, with its municipal build- to the court for hundreds of years. designer hotel the way it should be sign, only a single faded photo- ings and hotels and statuary, it asserts only it has the right to sell in a city that a hundred years ago graph from the film.

was the birthplace of some of the Two hundred metres up, in the

wooden box that swings precariously, you can see most of this city that started as a small Roman encampment in 500 BC. Flashing forward about 1500 years, in 1030 Wienne, as it was then called, was the second biggest town north of the Alps, after Cologne. After that it was taken and retaken, built and rebuilt, walled and re-walled until, in 1246, Frederick the Warlike was killed and Vienna became the seat of the Holy Roman Empire. Enter the Habsburgs.

The Reformation had its day, Jews and Turks came and went, leaving influence in the shape of all those onions and pumpkins on churches. By the mid-17th century, though, the Counter Reformation took hold for good and Austria became and stayed rescious room, I return to the party. olutely Catholic, Italian architects were imported to turn religion into stone. Baroque churches have settled in for a long night of and monasteries went up and defined the Viennese style.

From up here, from this creaking monster of a ferris wheel, you imagine you can see it all - the Danube (a bit disappointing, this stream of a river, and not blue at all), the Vienna Woods (dotted with hideous suburbs), the overwhelming imperial palace of the

Habsburgs. So much history. So much building. So much stuff crammed into this place that before 1918, when Austria was demoted to a tiny republic, Vienna was the capital of a vast chunk of Europe. In the late 17th century it was the centre of music and theatre; by the middle of the 18th, the Empress Maria Theresa had married off her daughters to just about everyone in Europe. One of her girls, Marie Antoinette, married Louis XVI of France.

Look over there - the Hofburg, the imperial palaces. In it, the dozens of courtyards and apartments, the overwhelming collections of silver and china and armour and furniture. Everywhere are museums and ornate town-houses. Further afield is the Schönbrunn, the summer palace

Marie Antoinette. The guide books tell you that, under Prince Metternich, during the first half of the 19th century. pretty much everyone in Vienna started living a cosy bourgeois life, all Biedermeir furniture and waltz

Victoria ruled in England.

famous central boulevard of when Baron Haussmann was turnboulevards. The Industrial Revolution took hold and the railroads were built and the Metro; there were steamships on the Danube. By 1010, Vienna had two million inhabitants. Most of them, it seems to me, attending musical events.

Seeing the huge state opera house and the concert halls, I think of all the great composers who lived here; Mozart, who wrote his best operas in Vienna; Beethoven his symphonies; Schubert his lieders. And there were Brahms and Mahler and all those Strausses. Later, as I wander around reading concert posters (not to mention ads for waltz schools), I find it almost oppressive, this requirement that you respect Vienna's musical history and engage with it; music is a kind of religion in Vienna. I begin, God help me, to long for a quick dose

of rap. OK, Barry Manilow. The music has stayed on. But by as Gustav Klimt and Oskar the end of the Second World War Kokoschka and Egon Schiele; Austria had become a little nation of six million where once Vienna had ruled 52 million. It is a small neutral country that depends on tourism, and Vienna is now the kind of city where people have wars about the origin of cake.

For me, on this first visit, Vienna is not a city that seduces; it makes you think, though. But, then you remember what the cynearnest Holly Martins as they disembark from the big wheel: Italy had 30 years of blood, terror and Michelangelo, Leonardo and the called it "The Golden Cabbage". Renaissance, Switzerland had 500 years of peace and brotherly love major spy-port, the farthest Westcuckoo clock.

Ounday: it's snowing. Everyone carries little shoe bags so they Ucan change into dry shoes be boasts: cheap cigarettes, inside. Except the beggars, of course; there are plenty of beggars huddled against the walls, often in the doorways of exquisite, gilded cafés that are selling cakes covered in pale green marzipan.

Vienna has had a café society for hundreds of years and everywhere you see people sipping coffee, eating pastry, counting the pieces of bread they've had with lunch in order to report to the waiter how many pieces of bread must be paid for.

At Demel, the most beautiful of the tea rooms, waitresses in black

riday: le tout Vienna is at the opening night party of Das Triest. Vienna's newest of Das Triest She is in mink and cashmere. He Down there is the Ring, the is in loden with a brush in his hat.

Demel supplied confectionery carved out in the 19th century when Baron Haussmann was turning Paris into a similar city of great in the middle) because the chef who invented it left the Hotel Sacher to work for Demel. Sacher, of course, disagrees strenuously.

Vienna feels like a city that believes its own myths - the men in hat-brushes, the cakes, the music, even the food. It's a meaty cuisine - one restaurant brags that its "schnitzel hangs over the plate". Everywhere I feel there is an

oversweet congeniality, an eagerness to please, a fatalism that tattles behind your back. Or maybe it's the contradictions that are interesting, that this heavy bourgeois culture gave rise, for example, to psychoanalysis. You can see Freud's flat at 19 Berggasse; most of the furniture is in London, though - even the couch.

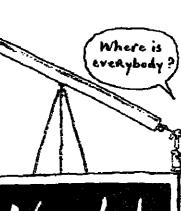
More astonishing is that this town loaded down with so much of the Baroque and Rococo suddenly gave birth to its turn-of-thecentury modern art: painters such Kokoschka and Egon Schiele; architects like Adolf Loos, Josef Hoffmann. Otto Wagner, who was perhaps the guiding light of the Secession Movement, built wonderful townhouses and Metro stations that catch your eye with their sleek but lush lines.

At the intersection of the Friedrichstrasse is the Secession Pavilion, built in 1898. The white cube topped by a gilded dome ical Harry Lime remarks to the made of laurel leaves was put up to promote the Jugendstil (Art Nouveau) style. Inside is an amazing frieze by Gustav Klimt. The bourwarfare, and it produced the geoisie hated the building they

Not so long ago Vienna was a and what did it produce? The ern city east, a place on the edge of the world, as a taxi driver reminds me. He's a motormouth kid who drives recklessly on the icy roads. He can get me anything. booze, drugs.

"Sure," he says, "I can get anything for you, even nukes, you want Russian nukes? How about body parts?" Yes, he says, he can get body parts, a liver goes for eighty grand. He rambles on; the taxi skids. At midnight, the snow coming down hard, I am glad when Das Triest suddenly appears, windows lighted, at the end of the street.

> Das Triest is at 1040 Wiedner Haupstrasse 12, Vienna (00 43 1 589 18 0). A double room is 2,600 schillings (about £172) per night including breakfast.



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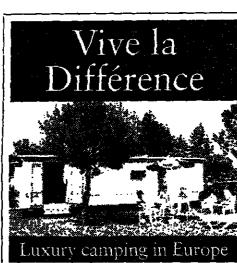
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Where Darwin evolved the big theory

Julia Kaminski goes to the Galapagos



Above: basking in the sun, sea lions snooze on the rocks or the sand. You smell and hear them a long time before you see them Photograph: Mike Gore Right: the greatest threat to iguanas is not, surprisingly, from tourism, but from dogs introduced by settlers Photograph: Celia May

Galapagos Islands – a little late by British summer standards - but at least you can be sure it will rise in a blaze of glorious yellow. Pelicans will be sitting patiently on the dinghy bobbing behind your boat, waiting for morsels of lisa fish to be tossed out as the captain guts the early morning catch in preparation for lunch.

This is the way to see the Galapagos - on a small boat, sailing between the islands. You wake up to a new vista each day, and fall asleep under a sky thick with stars, with sea lions grunting on the rocks outside your porthole.

If you love wild places, and especially if you love wildlife, you will see why the first explorers to land here called this place las islas encantadas - the enchanted islands. Windswept cliffs are home

he sun rises at 6am in the to 58 species of birds, 28 of them found only in the archipelago. On one clifftop on Española island we watched giant albatrosses stepping off into the air currents and floating down above the waves.

To get there we had climbed up through brushy scalesia trees and scrambled past a colony of about 400 blue-footed boobies, all nursing offspring or squatting on eggs. Otherwise pale and unassuming, these bird have the most extraordinary webbed feet of the brightest midnight blue, and the males employ them as a seduction technique. A male will stand very solemnly, lifting one leg at a time. Judging by the number of offspring here, the technique is pretty successful. Each pair raises two chicks a year, and our trip in late May was a perfect time to see young ranging from one-day old to two months. The parents take

turns to sit on the hatching eggs

in regular, 12-hour shifts.

More entrancing, though, are the sea lions, which you smell and hear long before you see them. Basking in the sun, they snooze in vast numbers on the sand or rocks, curled up together with their heads on each others' flanks. Young pups waddle up for a closer look at you and to nibble your toes, shying away only when the 500th dominant male comes roaring out of nowhere to bring them back to the fold. One of the greatest delights here is swimming with the pups, although the first time a sea lion darts up to peer at you through your

snorkelling mask is disconcerting. The snorkelling here is fantastic; even without the joy of the sea lions, there are angel fish, parrot fish, Moorish idols, "chocolate-chip starfish", sharks

(small ones), leather-backed turtles, rays of every hue – golden, black and white-spotted – and the giant manta, which can grow to a fin-span of 18ft.

Our enthusiasm was matched only by that of our guide, Luis, who remained unwearied by months of seeing familiar creatures. "Look, look, an iguana," he would cry, prompting us all to dash over the rocks brandishing our cameras like paparazzi descending on Liz Hurley. I wondered how I would manage, seven days a week, keeping excitement in my voice as l shouted "Look, look, a dog!"

During a week here you can visit roughly seven islands, although if you can manage a fortnight you will get to visit some of the more outlying islands where whales are more likely to be found. Sailing never takes up

more than a couple of hours a day, but, in any case, the voyages are a good time to sunbathe and scan the horizon for dolphins. Our vigilance paid off one day when we were joined by a school of dolphins, diving across our

bows and each other. During your trip you also visit the Charles Darwin research station, which is responsible for the protection of the islands and their wildlife. It also advises the Ecuadorean government on environmental matters, rears endangered giant tortoises (Steven Spielberg must have come here for inspiration for ET) and provides a home for Lonesome George, the last remaining Pinta

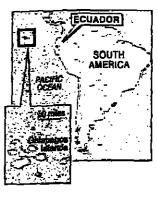
Visitors, they say (contrary to expectations), are not the greatest threat to the islands.

solution to the islands' problems, since it provides economic activity for local people," says Julian Fitter of the Galapagos Conservation Trust, a charity based in Shaftesbury, Dorset, which raises funds for the Charles Darwin Foundation. Numbers so far have been carefully controlled, which means the animals and birds can remain unafraid, and it also means you never feel that the islands are swamped with people. In fact, you hardly see another soul. Of

According to Mr Fitter, the main problem is introduced species. Settlers brought with them goats and dogs and pigs, against which endemic plants and animals have no defences. Goats have deforested large "Tourism is almost more the areas, wild pigs eat bird and tur-

only five are inhabited.

the 61 islands in the archipelago,



From the end of December to the end of March is warm and calm. July to December is mistier and drizzly; September is particularly drab, and is best avoided.

How to get there

Get to Quito, the capital of Ecuador; South American Experience (0171-976 5511) has a fare of £447 on Viasa from Heathrow via Caracas. From here two airlines (TAME and SAN) fly to Baltra and San Cristobal respectively for £200-£250 return. The Ecuadorean Air Force operates Hercules freighters to the islands.

What to sign up for

You can select an eight-day boat trip or stitch together two four-day ones. Total cost can be anything from £600 to £1.800. A hotel / cruise combination costs as little

tle eggs, dogs kill land iguanas and turtles. One of the research station's biggest tasks is to control the numbers of introduced species, and in some cases, such as the goat population on Pinta, to eliminate them altogether. "There is no point worrying about the effects of tourism if the introduced species are not controlled, because in 50 years' time they will have taken over - there will be nothing left," Mr Fitter says. In the meantime, it seems that tourists are welcome. Luis Maldonado of the Association of Galapagos Tour Operators says: "The present capacity for tourists is almost double the actual flow, and if tourism is handled well, as it has been for the past 25 years, it allows sensible use of resources and brings increased awareness of the

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An on-the-spot survey of mountain restaurants recently found that lunch in a Swiss resort could cost twice as much as lunch in an Italian one

Snow's Up doubt that many skiers need me to repeat the message that Italy is the only place in the Alps where prices have not risen uncomfortably in recent years. But what may be worth emphasising - at least for the benefit of those who have yet tied up. One is to beware the to commit themselves to a ski holiday - is the size of the gulf

that has opened up between Italy and the rest. In mid-December, an onthe-spot survey of mountain restaurant prices commis-sioned by Where to Ski found that lunch in a major Swiss resort could cost almost twice as much as in a major Italian one, with France coming a close second and even Austria working out closer to Switzerland than to Italy.

The survey showed that a satisfying mountain lunch of pasta with wine or beer followed by a fruit tart typically cost £14.50 in a Swiss resort such as Verbier, £12.50 in a French resort such as Tignes, £11.50 in an Austrian resort such as St Anton, but only £7.50 in an Italian resort such

as Courmayeur or Selva. The detailed findings of the survey contain some messages of interest even to those with their holiday bookings already

looks best - mid-week, all major resorts had all their lifts open, despite typical village snow depths of a modest 25cm. For more reassuring figures, head east both (to Obertauern).

Davos/ Klosters looked

by Chris Gill

swanky restaurant in the otherwise reasonably priced area. The most expensive meal consumed by the researchers assiduously lunching their way around the Alps was not in Switzerland or France, but in Austria, in St Christoph, over the hill from St Anton, where they paid £21 each for a twocourse meal based on spare ribs and a baked potato. The other side of the coin is that it is usually possible to find restaurants charging "ordinary prices (ie ordinary inflated ski-resort prices) even in resorts that are generally regarded as expensive,

A close look at individual prices shows that Switzerland owes its top-rank position mainly to the high cost of main-course dishes - even straightforward filling dishes such as spaghetti bolognese can be disproportionately expensive. Soups, snacks, tarts, sandwiches and drinks are not necessarily more

Snow reports

had snow over the holidays, but more is still to one metre; in the megaresorts of Savoie, cover at needed. In general, Austria resort level is generally no a more serious dump than its neighbours. (to Flachau, for example) or have problems, La Clusaz, go high (to Obergurgl) or for example, is only half-

snowy on the mid-week TV at lower altitudes around pictures of the latest Royal skiing incident, but the lower runs here, as elsewhere in Switzerland, are scratchy at best. The heaviest French falls have mostly been in the south (Alpe d'Huez), with the Rockies.

ost parts of the Alps resort-level depths of 50cm more than adequate - but Val d'Isère/ Tignes has had

> Further north in Haute Savoie the lower resorts open. Italy has had a share in the recent falls, but rain Christmas did some damage. Across the pond, there's fresh snow in Colorado and in western Canada. More snow looks likely this week both in the Alps and

> > **F**

expensive than elsewhere, over 12 per cent down on the main courses can be big enough to be shared between two, if the budget is tight.

Not everything on the Italian price front is good news. At about 2,400 lire to the pound, the Italian exchange rate is early 1994. But the pound is exchange rate movements.

And bear in mind that Swiss rate in spring 1995, which formed the basis of most package holiday pricing; if you've booked with an operator whose conditions permit surcharges, you can expect to pay them. Happily, most of the larger operators are commitmuch the same as it was in ted to fixed prices regardless of



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Out on your own, not out on a limb

The Independent Traveller's World aims to prepare free spirits for the unexpected. By Simon Calder

Travel is terrifying. You get ill. or merely insurance, the Waterlose your passport and money, and feel lonely - and Express. More seriously, events this week have brought home the chilling reality behind some of the seductive images of travel: the disappearance of a British backpacker in Thailand, and the kidnapping of two tourists in Costa Rica have concentrated the minds of intending travellers. The world beyond the glossy brochures is a perplexing place: "independent" need not imply "intrepid", but sometimes it feels as if it does.

We are in the husiness of allaying fears, offering advice and, most important, providing encouragement," says Helen Caldwell, who launched the first Independent Traveller's World at Bristol's Watershed Media Centre in 1993. Since then it has expanded considerably, but remains a celebration of the sort of world that goes unrecognised by high-street travel agencies. Whether you seek reassurance

shed will become a real travellers' souk over the weekend of that's just on the Gatwick 19 to 21 February. Overland truck operators, travel publishers and discount ticket agencies will be vying for the hearts and passports of an estimated 6,000

> The idea that planning a trip should be as exciting as talking about it afterwards was developed jointly by Helen Caldwell and her partner Mark Renwick. The beauty of it, he says, is that "you can arrive with nothing but good intentions and depart with precise travel plans". People who have been there, done that and have the photos (and bruises) to prove it will reveal the rewards and risks of cycling to Peking or canoeing the Amazon. In a programme of talks and workshops, recently returned travellers provide the latest on hot new destinations and cool travel tips. Then you can check out air tares, buy a guidebook or two, and find out what health precautions you need.

If a post-Christmas cashflow

Backpack wanderlust: preparation will mean that you are independent without feeling isolated crisis has given you a nasty scare, Susan Griffith – author of Work

English in Peru. For some, the most terrifying thing about travel in the late Ninetics is the way that hi-tech seems to have hijacked it. So Mark Ellingham, founder of the Rough Guides, will be taking travellers on a tour around the Internet, where the Rough Guide to the USA now resides, constantly updated by travellers.

And should the prospect of writing about travel frighten you Your Way Around the World - is more than the journey itself, a on hand with advice about fishtravel-writing workshop could packing in Iceland or teaching put your mind at rest. One of the contributors is Rory McLean, who went on from winning an Independent travel-writing competition to become an estab-

lished writer and broadcaster. The Independent has been closely involved with the event from the outset, and the newspaper's travel team will again be represented at Bristol. "We see it as an excellent opportunity to meet travellers and the travel industry, and to get feedback from readers," says Harriet O'Brien, who edits these pages. "The event helps keep us sharp - at the cutting edge of travel journalism.

Like the Independent's travel coverage, the event seeks to prove than you need not be young, rich nor superhumanly fit to see the real world. Neither does it shirk from the dangers of travel - both to travellers, and to the planet. Equipment companies will be demonstrating water

filters and protection against mosquitoes, while speakers focus on the need for cultural and environmental sensitivity among travellers.

The challenge of independent travel is not for everyone, and some visitors may find the main effect of the event is to deter them; better you find out on a winter weekend in Bristol than halfway up the Orinoco without a paddle. The rest of us can find inspiration, and take comfort from fellow travellers: this need not be the year of living dangerously.

independent Traveller's World 1996

Bristol: Watershed Media Centre, 19-21 January. Admission on Friday is £2; on Saturday and Sunday, £3.50.

London: Business Design Centre, Islington, 9-11 February. Friday £3. Saturday and Sunday £5.

Edinburgh: Assembly Rooms, 54 George Street, 2-3 March. Admission £3.50

Readers of the Independent and Independent on Sunday are entitled to a £1 discount on the normal admission price for Saturday and Sunday by producing a copy of that day's newspaper. Call 0117-930 4440 or fax 0117-987 2627 for more details of Independent

On the travel page of Section Two next Wednesday, Jeremy Skidmore of the industry journal Travel Weekly will be giving the inside

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Trouble spots

This week's advice from our man in the Foreign Office

Nepal: "Driving and vehicle maintenance standards are poor and the cause of frequent accidents. Travel by long-distance bus is a cause for particular concern."

Cote d'Ivoire: "Has its full share of street crime, armed robbery and car theft. In Abijan, mugging is particularly rife on the two bridges. Visitors should not cross these on foot."

Egypt: "Extremists have warned foreigners not to visit Egypt, most recently in late 1995... Visitors should be vigilant, and are reminded to behave and dress discreetly."

Kazakhstan: "There has been an increase in attacks on the streets of larger cities, including Almaty. Do not walk the streets alone at night, or travel in unmarked taxis. Diphtheria cases are increasing. Seek medical advice before travelling."

Dominican Republic: "The situation in Haiti does not affect the tourist areas in the Dominican Republic, which are a considerable distance from the border. Tourists are nevertheless advised to keep themselves informed of developments."

> Foreign Office travel advice is available on 0171-270 4129; on BBC2 Ceefax page 564 onwards; and on the Internet at http://www.fco.gov.uk/

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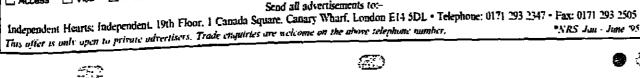
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Books

A blast from the past

The supercharger is back. And this time it's environmentally friendly. By Phil Llewellin

he word "supercharger" is one of the most evocative in motoring vocabulary. No real knowledge of automotive technology is needed to associate it with a special type of power, and enthusiasts recall when supercharged machines from the likes of Alfa Romeo, Mercedes, Bentley and Bugatti ruled the Grand Prix roost.

Strong associations with yesterday's mile-eating thoroughbreds make one wonder why Britain's thriving outpost of the Mercedes-Benz empire - now the marque's third biggest market after Germany and America - has decided not to put a supercharger badge on the tail of the C230K saloon, Mercedes's first supercharged car for more than 50 years. According to one the-ory, the stodgy German equivalent, kompressor, is less likely to attract the attention of the

Jaguar and Aston Martin have launched supercharged cars in recent years, and Mercedes's decision to take the same route with this more affordable addition to the Cclass range is another indication that the supercharger is making a comeback. The swift and stylish SLK two-seater will be available with the new engine when it goes on sale in Britain a year from now, Other models are in the pipeline.

All of which poses several questions. What does the supercharger do: what are its advantages; and how does it differ from the more familiar

turbocharger? Car butts frequently refer to a supercharger as a "blower". because it blows air into the combustion chambers under pressure and increases efficiency to a remarkable extent. The supercharged Alfa Romeos that dominated Grand Prix racing after the



Second World War had 1.5litre engines whose 450bhp was about 10 times as much as the typical road-car engine of that size produced.

Thanks to its "blower", the

new Mercedes saloon's fourcylinder, 2.3-litre engine provides exactly as much muscle (193bhp) as the C280 model's six-cylinder. 2.8-litre. But there is a distinct difference in the way the power is delivered. One of the supercharged engine's basic advantages is that it generates a lot of torque. So, for instance, the C230K is almost a second faster from zero to 60mph than the naturally aspirated C280. This appears to be a rare instance of getting something for nothing: increased performance is accompanied by the prospect of much lower fuel bills. According to the official test figures, the Kompressor is about 20 per cent more economical than its 2.8-

litre stable-mate. That is not the only good



news, according to Dr Leopold because the C230K's catalytic converter gets up to full work-Mikulic, the engineer in charge of developing Mercedes's ing temperature from a cold start more quickly. The engine petrol engines. Supercharging used to be regarded simply as beats the European test figure a way to increase power, but for carbon monoxide emisnow, he explains, "the supersions by 70 per cent and for nitrogen oxide emissions by 20 charger is used for meeting contemporary demands such per cent. as lower exhaust emissions. In short, supercharging allows us

The supercharger's rival. the turbocharger, first became popular in the mid-1970s, initially thanks to Porsche and Saab. Its main drawback was "lag" (slow response). Serious art supercharger features two 143mph top speed in Britain.

Mercedes's stylish

supercharged 2.3-

photo and left) offers

better economy and

as much power as

its 2.8-litre

litre C230K (main

power tended to arrive sud-The supercharger is denly, because this type of "blower" is driven by gas-flow no longer a gasguzzling bonnet bump like that featured in the 'Mad to the engine, so response is Max' movies (inset). very much sharper.

The supercharging concept goes back to 1860, but credit for the first production car with a supercharged engine as standard goes to Daimler-Moteren-Gesellschaft - which became a part of Mercedes-Benz - in 1922.

Mercedes welcomed the new technology, creating a series of formidable racing and touring cars. Driven by the great Rudolf Caracciola, the relatively lightweight Mercedes SSKL packed a 300bhp punch and won three of 1931's big events. They included Italy's madcap Mille Miglia a race contested over 1000 were, in theory, closed to non-

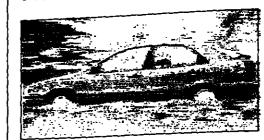
competing vehicles. The C230K's state-of-the-

three-lobed rotors which compress air by spinning at up to 12,000rpm. My only complaint in the exhaust system. The about this engine is that Mersupercharger has a direct link cedes was obliged to reduce the noise levels that have always been associated with superchargers. That makes sense from an environmental

viewpoint, but eliminates the

spine-tingling aural pleasure.
Prices for the C230K range from £25,300 to £28,400. depending on the level of equipment. Until the SLK sports car arrives in 1997, this is the nearest you can get to being a latter-day Caracciola. He was at the wheel in 1938. when a streamlined version of the supercharged Mercedes W123 grand prix car blasted along the Frankfurt-Darmstadi autobahn at 269mph. The new Kompressor is much slower than that, of course, but miles of public roads that headlines as big as those that acciaimed Caracciola's recordbreaking feat are guaranteed if you are caught exploiting its

road test Fiat Bravo



Tiat might recently have modelled its cars on grocery boxes, but the Italian giant has become innovative and quality conscious in its design. The Bravo and Brava are the most eye-catching mainstream hatchbacks you're likely to see this decade.

The most beguiling of the pair is the Bravo, its slinky skin defining a shape of great muscularity and fluidity. There's a structural integrity about this car that the supplanted Tipo never quite achieved. Much

greater crash safety and security, too.
On test the 1.8ELX was hard-edged when extended, but the engine was barely audible when cruising. Wind and tyre noise were well suppressed. I have sat in more supportive seats, but no five-door in this sector has more room or style. I liked the responsive power steering, the solid, all square stance on twisty roads, the firm brakes and the crisp, easy gear-change. Switches and vents all reflect painstaking attention to detail.

Models start at £9,608 for the 1.4S. The five-door 1.6SX Brava, with more boot space, costs £11,424. The 1.8 ELX, with anti-lock brakes, is £13,293. The five-cylinder 2.0 and turbo-diesel will be available later in the year. Fiat claims prices are 3-5 per cent below the competition and even the cheapest model has a driver's airbag, power steering, central locking, engine immobiliser and pur-pose built audio equipment.

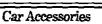
Roger Bell

Specifications

Fiat Bravo 1.8HLX, £12,580 Engine: 1747cc, four cylinders, 16 valves, 113bhp at 5800rpm. Transmission: five speed manual gearbox, front-wheel drive. Top speed 120mph, 0-60mph in 9.7 seconds, average consumption 35.9mpg.

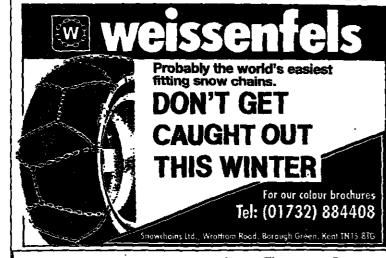
Ford Escort 1.8Si three-door, £12,890 Recent improvements in handling and refinement. Lacks Bravo's brio, but the I.S version car goes well. Honda Civic 1.6 ES1 three-door, £13,250 Small, high-revving engine gives strong performance. Latest model is prettier than the old "hunchback". Peugeot 306 2.0 XSi, £13,810 One of the class bench-marks. Pretty, well-packaged car with plenty of zap, fine handling and comfortable ride. Rover 216 Si three-door, £12,195 Cute new inhouse Rover 200 is smaller than the car it supplants, and not as roomy as its Fiat competitor. Lively performance, agile handling and fun to drive.

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Coming soon to a forecourt near you

Gavin Green on the new models for the new year

nar makers are great at playing follow-my-leader. One company innovates and makes a mint, and after due caution, market research. soul searching or vacillation the others jump in. This year the three leads they are following en masse are: people carriers (chasing joint pioneers Chrysler and Renault). two-seater roadsters (following the Mazda MX-5 and last year's MGF) and baby cars (after the 37-year-old Mini. proof that some leaders take a long time to follow). Ford would not describe its

new baby car, set for launch in the autumn, as a "Mini rival". It's a bit too big; not novel enough. Being based closely on the Ford Ka "sub-B" prototype shown at various motor shows over the past couple of years, it is effectively a cut-down Fiesta in trendy clothing. It will win no prizes for technical ingenuity; another Issigonis Mini it is

But it is the precursor to a number of new small cars shorter than Fiestas or Corsas - aimed at economy-minded city drivers. More radical babies follow later this decade, among them the Mercedes A-class (Metro size on the outside. Mondeo size inside), the ritzy French-built Smart Car (co-developed by Swatch and Mercedes, and to feature an electric option), and a rival from Vauxhall, code-named

the S-car.

People carriers (seven-seat family "vans") are now start-ing to get old hat, It's well over a decade since Chrysler launched the Voyager van in America, and Renault the prettier Espace soon after in Europe. None the less, sales continue to grow. Among the late entrants this year are Vauxhall, with a new American-made vehicle called the Sintra; Mercedes, about to launch a dull-looking but doubtless fine-driving vehicle called the Viano, to be built in Spain: and Scat, with its version of the Ford Galaxy/ Volkswagen Sharan, called



As driven by Bond: BMW's Z3, which comes to Britain in the summer

also begin to sell right-handdrive versions of its new Voyager, designed in America but assembled in Austria, It's likely to be the most impressive people carrier of the year.

However, if you're keen on the versatility of a seven-scater van. I'd go ahead and buy the best of last year's releases, the Galaxy or Sharan (same car, different badges). The offerings in 1996 are unlikely to be any better. Europe deserted the road-

ster market in the Sixties and Seventies. Mazda eventually showed the slow-witted Europeans that there were riches in ragiops after all. Rover (MG), the one-time dominator, got back in last year. This year we'll see the return of BMW, Mercedes, Porsche, Renault and, in Britain, Alfa Romeo.

The new BMW Z3 has already been widely seen as the German interloper, taking what should have been Aston Martin's place as James Bond's company car in Goldeneve. It's a pretty little fourcylinder thing, due in Britain in the summer for under

Mercedes, of course, never gave up building madsters. They've been building SEs for film stars (usually starlets).

models and other rich, nonretiring types for years. At the end of this year, they'll get back into the "affordable" sector. Being Mercedes, their definition of affordable is a little different from yours or mine, but £25,000 for the base model, and about £29,000 for the supercharged version (see above) does sound like good

value for the new SLK. Porsche will charge similar money for its new Boxster 986, a mid-engined open-top two-seater that replaces the 986 and the long-lived 928. Renault's £25,000 offering. the Sports Spider, is a raw, minimalist racer-for-the-road.

due here in the spring Finally, the Alfa Spider name makes a comeback in the UK early this year, when the gorgeous new Alfa - on sale in Europe for almost a year - finally makes it across the Channel. It's joined by a GTV hardtop coupe. They're further proof of the styling and technological renaissance going on within the Fiat

The most important new British car of the year will be the new Jaguar XK8 coupé. due in October. It replaces the 20-year-old XIS, looks

and features Jaguar's new V8 engine, built by Ford in Bridgend, Wales. There'll be convertible and hardtop coupé versions. In 1997, the new V8 engine goes into the XJ6 saloon, replacing the current straight-six unit.

BMW will launch the new 5-series in Britain in April. I've already had an early drive here. It's probably the best executive car of them all.

Another potential class winner is the new Renault Megane, also coming in the spring to replace the R19. It competes in the Escort sector, where it will give the current "best buy" (the new Fiat Bravo/Brava) a close contest. Whatever the outcome, they both set new standards in what has been, for many years, a technologically unadventurous sector.

The best mainstream new car of the year? Probably the Megane. The prettiest? The Alfa Spider. Best big family car? Either of the Mercedes estates. The most influential? The Ford baby car. The higgest technical breakthrough? Too early to say whether there'll be one at all. But, with such a follow-mymore like an updated E-type. are getting impatient. leader year in prospect, we

the Alhambra, Chrysler will S (# \ \ •

The house is a dream. The neighbour is a nightmare

Angela Lambert withstood abusive calls, blaring radios and spying. But then came the brick through the window...

suffered a bad neighbour for rooms whose curtains were usu- she caught sight of me in the 12 years, and although I may much - the perfect rambling. tall and many-roomed Victo-rian family home - our neighbour (let me call her Alice, which

wasn't her name) drove us away in the end. She was spiteful, cunning, obsessional, opportunistic and devious. In retrospect, I think the sad truth is that she was probably just desperately lonely and deeply envious of our noisy. busy family life.

Alice was a single woman in her fifties when 1, then a young divorcee, moved in to the house next to hers, along with my three the other side. She must have children and our caravan of cats, rabbits, au pair girls, friends and followers. Our new neighbour came, I suspect, from what used to be called "a good family"; at any rate, she bore a famous sur-

and double-fronted - twice the bedrooms and four grand reception rooms - she lived alone, and never had visitors. In the early days, when I still believed that a sensible chat over a nice cup of tea would surely sort things out. house once, but never got beyond the kitchen or saw into the other leave it to blare fortissimo until

never love another house as torchlight, and seemed to be a complete recluse.

Alice pretended that a number of old ladies lived in her care, although I never saw any; not in the garden (which was large) or the kitchen (whose window faced ours). If they did exist, I pity them, but they were probably a figment of her imagination, used to add weight and selfrighteousness to her complaints about our behaviour.

Our two houses shared a party wall, and Alice evidently slept in the bedroom adjoining mine on spent hours with her ear pressed to a glass pressed against my bedroom wall; at any rate, her frequent telephonic abuse (often in ludicrous disguised voices) betrayed a startlingly accurate Although her house was large knowledge of what went on in there. When she was particularly exercised about some imaginary size of ours, with at least eight misdemeanour of mine she would get up at 4am, stand on the other side of the wall inches from the head of my bed and rattle a teacup in its saucer, saying piercingly to some imaginary old lady, "Here you are dear, I've I sometimes knocked on her brought you a nice cup of tea!" door. I think I set foot inside the Then she would switch the radio on, tune in to Radio One and

ally drawn. She even gardened by kitchen and was satisfied that I had been roused.

> After more than a year of this I tried taking her to court for breach of my right to enjoy the quiet pleasure of my home. This was a mistake. The dawn awakening by teacup and Radio One became worse than ever, and she counter-sued for disturbance and noise. On the day of the court case she withdrew her claim and I, scenting peace, agreed to withdraw mine. I was wrong. Her attacks redoubled, until the very air of my rooms vibrated with the intensity of her hatred. I felt she watched us night and day - nor was this paranoia, as her lengthy missives proved. She spied on all our activities, abusing my teenage daughter with most unspinsterlike obscenities as the poor girl kissed her boyfriend goodnight on our front doorstep, hurled insults at my mild-mannered son and tried to electrocute our pet

She made phone calls to the police. Once she claimed that my son and several friends were on the roof, hurling tiles and lumps of earth and moss into her garden. The police arrived on our doorstep - more for the protection of the boys, I think, than in response to Alice - and rang the doorbell. As luck would have it,



Angela Lambert revisits the family home she felt forced to leave because of her neighbour

the door was opened promptly by my accused son, Johnnie. A policeman asked to see his hands. Buffled and innocent, Johnnie extended palms that, for once, were spotless. "All right, sonny. You ever climb on the roof, by the way?

"No" said Johnnie, with the air of one upon whom a great idea

"Well don't, will you? It's dan-

left, winking sympathetically at secuted by you and your dear

None of this made any difference to Alice, whose persecution grew increasingly demented. She would deliver elaborate letters, typed entirely in capitals. They assumed a tone of heavy irony along the lines of: "Well, Mrs Lambert, perhaps now you're satisfied! Four old ladies now live

gerous." said the policeman as he in terror of your approach, perchildren. That must be very gratifying to your self-esteem."
There would be pages more in the same vein. She even hurled a brick through my beautiful late-Victorian stained glass door, and then called to provide a detailed description of the "street-urchin" who, she said, had done the deed.

That was the last straw. I thought her next violence might be directed against us. We felt we had no option but to give up our much-loved home. We moved far away from Alice. Her feud against us had always seemed pointless. Only now can I regard her with some sympa-thy. It does seem perfectly obvi-

ous to me that she was stark-

raving crackers.

Noise and its effects

experts, noise can have serious detrimental effects on health. It

causes stress, anxiety and depression; heightens aggression

and deprives the sufferer of sleep and relaxation. Very loud noise

(over 60 decibels) can increase

palpitations or even angina and

heart disease. Some believe it

has a greater physical effect on

the Building Research Establishment last year found

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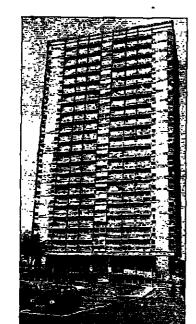
the heart rate, leading to

the body than any other

on your health

According to the scientific

There goes the neighbourhood: the escalating war next door



The tower block where a 13th-floor flat was firebombed during a party

oisy neighbours are the curse of suburbia. Ask anyone who lives next door to a yapping dog or a semi-detached disco. It is not hard to see why over the past few years they have become one of Britain's chief bugbears. Feuds over the garden fence are 1982.

Neighbourhood disputes over noise have lead to at least 17 killings and suicides during the last three years. People are being driven mad by the thumping beat from stereos or the drilling and hammering of midnight DIY enthusiasts. Among the worst cases was an incident last July when a British Telecom engineer

longed, excessive noise from his neighbours' towdy parties. He fire-hombed their flat, causing the death of a 26-year-old mother who fell from the 13th floor in the ensuing panic. In 1993, a man caused the

snapped after suffering pro-

going to court, several degener- death of a three-year-old boy by ating into violence and some setting fire to his upstairs neigh-ending in tragedy. Domestic bour's flat in north London. Durnoise is the most frequent com- ing his trial at the Old Bailey, the plaint received by local authori- court heard that he had previties in England and Wales who ously sought help from the police In Ealing, west London, an offirecord more than 100,000 calls and local MP to silence the noise; each year, compared to 33,000 in he had raised a petition and even written to the Prime Minister, all to no avail.

One morning, he lost control and told his neighbour to get her children out, because he was going to set her flat on fire. Then he doused the stairs in petrol and set them alight. The boy was trapped in a bedroom and died

On-the-spot fines of £40 for

people who ignore council or police warnings about noise are to be introduced under new Government legislation. It is one of several antidotes which have been considered, many of which involve environmental health officers in a more direct, and subsequently more dangerous, role.

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health says more of its members are being assaulted when trying to carry out their jobs. cer was beaten up trying to turn from those living nearby. Many officers are reluctant to deal with a rowdy party unless the police are in attendance

Not all noise disputes are violent, although an increasing number end up in court. The singer Whitney Houston's hit song "I Will Always Love You" brought two people to the dock when a woman in south London and

another in Middlesbrough were both jailed for playing it at exces-

In 1993, Poole County Court in Dorset banned a 55-year-old grandmother from playing her Jim Reeves records after complaints from neighbours. To make sure she complied, environmental health officers commandeered her gramophone.

One of the most celebrated noise cases was that of Corky, a cockerel in Devon that crowed so turbingly high volume was visited loudly at dawn that its owner 10 times by a council team invesreceived a noise abatement order from the council to silence it between midnight and 7am. In many instances, a diplo-

matic chat over the garden fence has proved enough to cool a dispute, but people are still eager to take the law into their own hands. Perhaps the bravest example is that of a 52-year-old Southampton woman who aimed her garden hose at a stereo

pounding out heavy metal music at a biker party next door. It was last-ditch attempt to silence the din after requests to turn it down were ignored and repeated calls to the police went unheeded. It worked - the speakers faltered and died as the water hit them.

For some, no amount of warnings and threats seem to work. An 18-year-old Leicester woman who played her stereo in the early hours of the morning at a distigating complaints, but continued to blast her neighbours through the night. Magistrates found her guilty of 10 charges of causing noise nuisance and fined her £12,500. She admits it will take a lifetime to pay, during which there will doubtless be many more violent and tragic cases brought to court.



Matthew Brace was ordered to silence him

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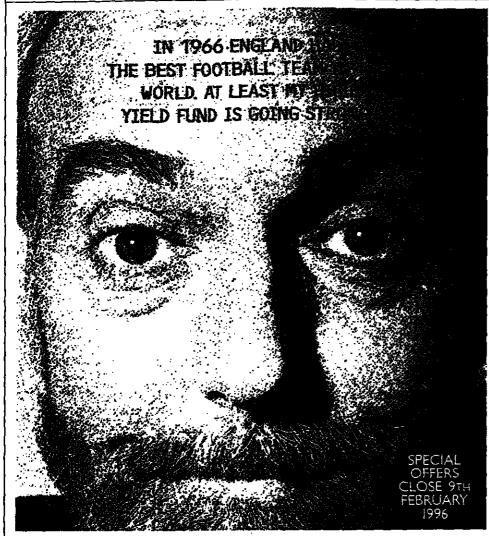
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Two sayings of JK Galbraith are well worth remembering at this time of year. The first is that 'pundits forecast not because they know, but because they are asked' while the second is that 'the only difference is between those who know they don't know and those who don't know they don't know'



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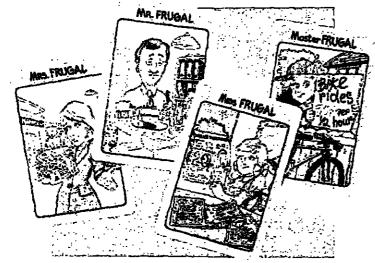
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fter the season of retrospectives, now for the New Year forecasts. This is the time of the year ben brokers, economists and pundits alike are persuaded to make their forecasts for shares and markets in the year ahead. Quite why this has become such a ritual is not entirely clear, since the exercise is rarely one that shows forecasters in the best light. Last year I quoted the economist J K Galbraith's definitive sment of the prediction business. Pundits

"forecast not because they

know, but because they are

asked", a saying whose fun-

damental truth is never so

well borne out as it is at this

time of year. Now I learn of Galbraith's other bon mot on the subject: "The only difference is between those who know they don't know and those who don't know they don't know". The forecasters you really have to worry about are those in the latter camp.

My impression is that most pundits are much happier today to hedge their predictions around with caveats than they were 20 years ago, when the statistical evidence that forecasting the stock market is a mug's game was less widely appreciated than it is



The real problem with New Year forecasts of course is that the rules of the game are not closely attuned with reality. Most people, it is true, do tend to look at their investments as the end of the year approaches, and for professional fund managers in particular the end of December is a critical time, since that is when their annual performance is calculated and bonuses are decided. The New Year is a good time to spring clean portfolios - to clear out some of their dog-eared shares and place some new

bets for the year ahead. This annual exercise does have some effect on the way that prices move around the New Year, But any such effect soon wears off, and big changes in market sentiment tend to happen at fairly random intervals throughout the year. Any sudden reversals tend to

come when they are least expected, as happened in February 1994. A defining characteristic of almost any genuine market, after all, is that prices rarely if ever e in a linear fashion. As JP Morgan famously observed when asked what he thought the market would do next, he replied: "It will fluctuate".

That is one reason why the performance of Wall Street over the last year has been so dramatic. It started going up from the start of 1995 and, in a complete reversal of normal practice, has barely stopped going up since. It seems to be starting the new year in much the same way as it ended the old one. Most UK pundits - and most professional investors - badly miscalculated the momentum behind Wall Street's rise and have been scrambling to catch up ever since.
Will they do better this

year? Having ploughed through all the main published New Year forecasts in the last week, it is clear that opinion is more evenly divided this year about how long Wall Street can keep up its momentum - but only a brave few, after last year's mauling, are prepared to stick their necks out and say that Wall Street's run is over.

Some brave souls, including both Robin Griffiths and David Schwartz, whose

views I have mentioned here before, think that the Dow Jones index, up 35 per cent last year, will not run out of steam until it has breached the 6,000 level. This year of course is a Presidential election year, which tend to be good for shares, and my guess is that their bullishness may well

prove to be right.

For the UK stock market, the outlook is much more uncertain. We too have an election on the horizon, although with the rapidly vanishing Tory majority in Parliament, its timing cannot be predicted with any precision. That would normally tend to dampen sentiment, but against that has to be set the strong likelihood of a further wave of bids and deals, at least in the first half of the year.

There is a good rule of thumb which says that buying shares when the dividend yield of the market is below 4 per cent at the start of the year is rarely that profitable, so nobody should expect any lasting fireworks from the London market. If you do have money to put into equities on a long-term view, this looks like being the year when genuine price competition between providers will finally make Peps ~ and index tracking Peps in particular - the cheap commodity that they ought to

be. I also stick confidently to my view that this at last will be the year when house prices do finally start to move upwards, and that property and construction shares will be rewarding.

Overseas, the two man issues are what happens to Tokyo and the emerging markets. The Nikkei index is up by over third since its low last year, and if there is one thing on which UK fund managers seem to be agreed it is that the Japanese market will continue to do well. Such a consensus is itself usually grounds for caution, and the high levels of debt in the Japanese corporate sector make it highly likely that progress will continue to be volatile.

The poor performance of emerging markets last year was for many fund managers the disappointment that mirrored the surprise outperformance on Wall Street. The trouble here is that the type of country now classified as an emerging market is so varied that generalisation is virtually impossible. Contrary to the majority view, I shall be surprised if they do that well as a group this year but on this particular issue, if you press me, I am more that usually confident that I do not know what will happen between now and next December. Nor, I strongly suspect, does any-

Thaw may bring cold comfort for householders

Household insurance should cover burst pipes caused by frost, but it pays to check the wording. By Paul Gosling

already caused a £500m nished or unoccupied." bill for frost damage and 75 per cent of all claims in the past two weeks have been for burst pipes.

Householders returning burst pipes and waterlogged homes might tell themselves that it could be worse. Home and contents insurance should pay for new pipes and damage to building and belongings where frost has caused the burst, although Commercial Union is one of on claims.

the cost of replacement pipes dred pounds - would not be drained. covered.

The water companies have burst pipes and leaking external pipes, and those in mains. But some of them are outbuildings, are not covwrongly claiming that house- ered by Direct Line's poliholders are not normally covered for pipe bursts from frost between the stopcock and a property boundary.

Colin Winsper, managing director of South Staffordshire Water, said: "There are one or two [insurers] that cover repair to pipe work but caused by frost or wear and very, very few." This view was tear. But standard homes also expressed by representatives of Anglian Water and North Surrey Water, which sell policies. Leaflets put out by

Anglian Water and South by frost. Staffs Water promoting policies underwritten by Leatherhead-based Gesa (Group European Assisa standard home insurance policy will cover the cost of repairs." The brochure does point out that a standard home insurance policy provides cover for accidental damage to water supply pipes or drains, but fails to explain that insurers classify frost damage as accidental.

John Kirkman of Green Flag, which underwrites the policies offered by 12 supply companies, including North Surrey and Yorkshire Water, added: "Our understanding is that the mains supply to a house is not covered." But the Association of British Insurers said that it believed all standard home insurance policies included cover for bursts of the supply pipes arising from frost. And in an extensive phone round of insurers the Independent could find none whose policies excluded underground

pipe bursts from frost. Tony McMahon, claims manager of Sun Alliance Connections, suggested: check their policy carefully. The wording may vary from insurer to insurer and policy to policy. The main exclusion of

The worst problems face occupants who took a winter holiday and failed to take precautions against frost. Householders may even find after a Christmas holiday to they have lost their insurance cover if the absence was prolonged - either over 30 days or 60 days, according to the policy - and they did not make special arrangements with their insurer.

Insurers will normally ing any costs from her husinsist on either central heating being kept on, or water nursing home while the flat few insurers who does not supplies switched off at the charge a £50 to £200 excess stopcock, and homes being was in hospital when the visited daily during a long burst took place. If the same thing had hap- absence or weekly in the pened because of corrosion, case of second homes. In rare instances insurers may - which can be several hun- require water systems to be

There are other cases much it is all going to cost, where policies may not proproblems of their own with vide cover. Unprotected cies, though they are by most

Standard buildings and contents policies give cover for consequential damage (such as to possessions, plasterwork and ceilings) from burst pipes, whether they are policies only cover replacement costs of pipes where they have been "accidentally" damaged, a definition that includes bursts caused

Several water supply companies are offering policies that provide cover against bursts caused by wear and tance) both say: "What may tear - which Gesa, undersurprise you is that in the writers of some of the polievent of a flood caused by a cies, points out normally burst pipe, it's unlikely that cause 90 per cent of bursts. Taking out a supplementary policy may be justified, but householders need to be aware of the limited benefits they are gaining. Gesa's Home Service Scheme costs an annual premium of £45, for which cover is obtained for up to £150 for internal plumbing emergencies, and up to £550 for external pipe

bursts, including those caused by wear and tear. Green Flag's Home Assist policy, at £72 a year, is more extensive, and covers other home emergencies, such as faulty central heating boilers, and its Home Assist Plus policy, at £96, also covers roofing problems. Cover is limited to £100 of parts and material, plus four hours of labour. Gesa's and Green Flag's policies contain no excess charges for claimants

One of the advantages of home assistance policies is that the insurer will engage the plumber on behalf of the householder, but some Each individual should insurers, such as Touchline, also offer this facility.

This winter's freeze has will be if a property is unfur- Kilwinning in Ayrshire. She woke up last Saturday morning to find the flat upstairs had been flooded from a burst pipe. When the water cascaded into her flat it destroyed her ceiling, the television, video and various bits of furniture. Mrs Wilson has a standard home and contents policy with Direct Line, which is not only paying to replace dam-

> band having to stay in a is made habitable. Mr Wilson Mrs Wilson is grateful to her insurers. "They have been absolutely splendid. she said. "They came in right away. I don't know how

aged items, but is also meet-

Green Flag: 0800 800688 Gesa: 01372 366701

but the insurer is going to pay



Pipe nightmares: insurers offer varying levels of cover for burst pipes, but they should classify damage due to frost as accidental

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Banking on the right Tessa

A new generation Tessas has arrived, offering attractive rates of return. But, as always, there are catches. By Clifford German

societies have all now revealed their terms for the new generation of tax exempt special savings accounts. As every Tessa holder knows by now, the whole of the capital accumulated in the first generation of Tessas, up to the maximum holding of £9,000, can be put back into a new Tessa, but the accumulated tax-free interest must be redeployed elsewhere.

Holders of maturing Tessas can roll over all or part of their capital with their existing provider, or transfer to a different one without penalty. Either way they have up to six months to do so. No one need rush to decide. But in order to ensure that the new account remains tax-free, anyone who does want to transfer rather than roll over more than £3,000 needs to get a certificate of entitlement from the original supplier.

Tessas are not necessarily the best place to invest or even reinvest your money. Over the last five years investors would have done better on a corporate bond Pep (if they had existed), and on a personal equity plan invested in UK shares. But Tessas are supersafe and that is what matters most to many investors.

In general the bigger providers offer lower rates, relying on their name and reputation. The smaller providers - who ran away with the prizes for the best returns on first generation Tessas - are once again

offering the best rates of return. But interest rates offered on day one are not the only thing investors need to watch. Some rates are fixed for the full five years while others are liable to change. Rates vary according to the amount invested, and some are restricted to existing customers only. Others - like the Halifax, for example - tweak the basic rates with a maturity bonus which is payable at the end of five also payable for investors who last £1 - but docks 60 days interest

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ares most)

he big banks and building years. Another variation on the rates theme is to offer an escalating rate over five years.

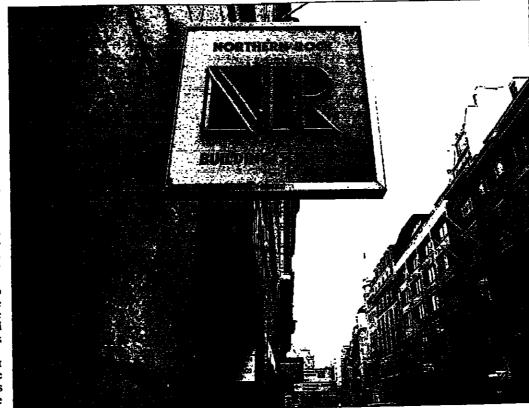
Some institutions have opted for loyalty bonuses payable only to customers who have rolled over an existing Tessa, and a small number - including Lloyds Bank, Kleinwort Benson and Birmingham Midshires - offer optional returns which are linked to future stock market performance.

Most accounts allow holders to draw interest during the life of the Tessa but some either insist the interest accumulates or withhold the maturity bonus if holders want to draw it. Investors must also watch out

for transfer penalties, which like mortgage redemption penaltics effectively lock customers in once they have opened their new account. Penalties can go as high as 180 days loss of interest on to find a better rate elsewhere later on. Straightforward withdrawals are not penalised. although they do lose their taxfree status.

The highest rate on a variable rate Tessa of £9,000 - the maximum sum which can be reinvested-is 8 per cent from Northern Rock, which initially offered 7.25 per cent before Christmas and then decided to lift its rates higher to establish itself as the market leader. Elsewhere the best rate is 7.75

per cent from Cheltenham & Gloucester, which offers the same rate on amounts as low as £1,000 - so long as they are renewing existing C&G Tessas. The transfer fee is also only £30. National Counties pays 5 per cent on £1,000 rising to 7.5 per cent on £9,000 with a 90 day interest penalty. Bradford & Bingley offers 5.75 per cent on minimum sums of £500 rising in steps to 6.75 per cent on £9,000, but a maturity bonus of 0.75 per cent a year is



Northern Rock is among those offering good fixed rates

fixed-rate Tessas, if customers try the course, and only one month's notice without penalty is required to transfer. Birmingham Midshires offers 7.25 per cent on sums as small as £3,000 but wants 180 days interest from transfers. Alliance & Leicester offers 7.25 per cent, but imposes 60 days loss

of interest on transfers. Natwest Bank pays the best rate among the clearing banks with 7.19 per cent compound on sums from £5,000 upwards if interest is not drawn - but it charges 180 days interest on transfers, and does not allow additions after the first year.

Bristol & West pays 4.9 per cent on sums as small as £500 rising in steps to 7 per cent on £9,000, and combines a maturity bonus of 1 per cent on the first year investment with a similar sum as a loyalty bonus for existing customers. Three months notice is required and three months loss of interest is charged on transfers.

Darlington Building Society offers 7.5 per cent to existing Tessa holders on sums as small as

from transfers. Monmouthshire pays 7.6 per cent to roll-over customers on as little as £1 and charges just one month's interest fixed rate carrot on maximum on transfers.

Some of the bigger players offer much less generous rates. Abbey National for example is offering just 6 per cent on sums of £3,000 rising to 6.6 per cent on the maximum roll-over fund of £9,000, while the Halifax is offerheld to maturity, bringing the overall rate up to 7.4 per cent.

The best fixed rates on offer include 7.64 per cent fixed on £9,000 from Northern Rock, but the penalty for transferring is 180 days interest plus a £30 fee. West Bromwich offers 7.55 per cent transfer penalty and both get a 1 fixed with 28 days notice and 180 days loss of interest to deter subsequent transfers.

Bradford & Bingley offers 7.5 per cent fixed, but one month's notice plus 180 days loss of interest is required for transfers. Barclays Bank pays 7.5 per cent fixed on amounts of £7,500 upwards

(IND 6/1-96)

with a month's notice and a variable fee for early withdrawals. Sun amounts, and a 180 notice plus 180 days loss of interest stick on

Yorkshire Building Society offers 7.3 per cent to existing customers with the full amount to roll over with an 180 loss of interest in years one and two, dropping ing just 5.9 per cent, with a ter- to 90 days thereafter. Only 7 per minal bonus of 2.5 per cent if it is cent is paid by Abbey National's fixed rate account, but the withdrawal fee is only £20.

Britannia Building Society offers 7.25 per cent fixed on the full £9,000 to its existing Tessa holders and 7.15 per cent fixed to new investors but there is no per cent bonus after a year. The Derbyshire offers 7.2 per cent fixed on full roll-overs from existing customers, but levies 180 days interest on transfers.

> Compiled with the help of data analysts Moneyfacts and financial advisers Johnson Fry.

How to pep up investments with tracker funds and corporate bonds

mix of shares chosen to "track" the UK stock market are leading the fight to challenge the new Tessas. They are targeted at people who think a price war on charges. This fixed-rate Tessas with heavy penalties for changing your mind are a bit off and variable rates are unexciting, and at investors who have reached their tax-free limit of £9,000 in a Tessa and need to reinvest their accumulated interest and future savings elsewhere.

Just six months ago, most experts thought that Tessa investors would turn to Peps investing in corporate bonds (ie fixed-interest loan stocks issued by UK companies).

Figures compiled by Baronworth currently quotes taxfree running yields (excluding any gains and losses on maturing bonds) of anything from 7.5 per cent to 8.5 per cent net of charges. But on average, corporate bond Peps offer perhaps 1 per cent more than a new-style Tessa.

They are invested in a range of bonds, so that the risk of a company going bust and defaulting is reduced to an acceptable minimum. The main risk to the capital will come only if interest rates generally start to rise significantly, so that the fixed interest coupons payable on most corporate bonds start to look

unattractive and prices fall. But the sharp rise in share prices on the London stock market has significantly increased the attractions of investments in shares, unit trusts, investment trusts and especially in tax-free Peps. Morgan Grenfell estimates that demand for Peps has risen 25 per cent over the past year, and 450,000 investors will actually take out a Pep

between now and the end of

ow-cost tax-free personal equity plans investing in a analysts Mintel, 10 per cent of them will be using the money from maturing Tessas. The interest in Peps is being

actively encouraged by signs of week Fidelity Investments the aggressive American-based fund managers - threw down the gauntlet by offering MoneyBuilder Index, a Pen investing in a range of shares selected to match the movements of the top 100 UK shares. Trackers are cheap to manage and there are no entry charges, the full-amount subscribed is invested, there are no exit charges to take the money out (and, unlike Tessas, the tax-free status is not lost if the money is withdrawn), and the annual management charge including any fee for creating the Pep is just 0.5 per cent a year. On a maximum investment of £6,000 the total charges are just £30 a year.

It undercuts the previous cheapest Pep, a tracker fund based on the All-share index introduced by Legal & General last year, which charged 0.5 per cent plus £25 plus VAT -a total of £59 a year to manage a £6,000 investment. It also undercuts the other market leaders, Gartmore, HSBC, Kleinwort Benson and Virgin, all of whom charge 1 per cent on similar products.

L&G immediately abolished their £25 fee to match Fidelity and other providers are expected to introduce lowcost Peps shortly. Between them they should generate attractive low-cost competition for investors if share prices continue to rise.

> Weekly corporate bond pep tables are available from Baronsworth, 0181-

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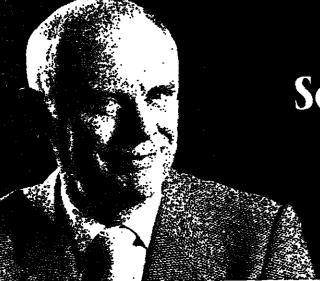
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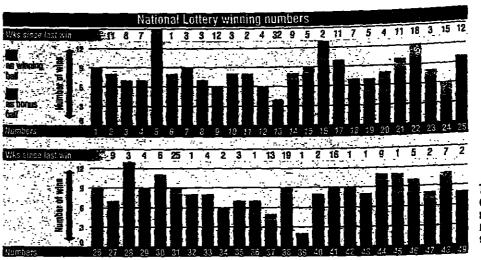
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The winning numbers are...

The vital statistics behind today's record jackpot. By Clifford German



boiling point today after two successive rollovers. The average weekly stake has been running around £65m, and the jackpot something over £9m, but the prospect of a double jackpot last week took the stake to £78m and the jackpot to

The lure of the first-ever treble jackpot pay-out this week is expected to persuade millions of

occasional players to try their luck. On average something approaching 30 million people play the lottery more or less regularly, and over 80 per cent of the adult population have played at some time or another. It is not hard to imagine that a record number will be taking part this evening.

The average stake could also rise from C or Li to Li or Li a head. taking the stake money to £90m or more. It could easily be £100m if the hype is to be believed, generating a record sum for good causes.

After the £10 prizes have been paid out, 52 per cent of the remaining prize pool is added to the jackpot, which is expected to rise to at least £35m, maybe even £40m – even if the stories about the Australianbased International Lotto Fund and its Romanian-born master-mind's turns out to be pure fiction. Church a losing sequence of 53 weeks, just

ational lottery fever reaches leaders can denounce the siren call of the lottery with all their might, but Camelot's own warnings that players should buy their tickets early this week were calculated to inspire even an bigger demand, and certainly got sales off to a very brisk start as soon as shops re-opened last Tuesday.

Perhaps the best hope of preventing lottery fever creating realhardship this week is that addicts will reduce their spending on instant scratch cards, currently running at around £26m a week, in order to

finance their dream of mega-riches. Since it started on 19 November 1994 the lottery has now created more than 140 lucky jackpot winners, (as well as, some might say, a lucky lottery regulator).

But Lady Luck continues to defy the statisticians.

After 59 weekly draws each number should have come up a little under nine times including bonus balls. In fact number five has now turned up as a winning number 15 times, including four times as the bonus ball.

Numbers 16 and 28 have come up 13 times. 22 has been drawn 12 times and numbers 30, 44 and 48 have all won 11 times,

At the other end of the scale. plan to invest £14m to cover every number 39 came up last week for the

in time to forestall the lottery equivalent of a steward's enquiry. It is no surprise to some that the next unluckiest number is 13 with only three winning balls plus one bonus, while 37 has only come up five times. and numbers nine, 12, 24 and 34 have won only six times.

There are also some long losing sequences. Each number should come up every eight weeks or so on average, but it is 32 weeks since 13 came up, and 25 weeks since 31 dropped into the winning slot, while number 38 has not won for 19 weeks now, and 22, which has won 12 times, last did so 18 weeks ago. It is 16 weeks since 41 was a winner. and 15 weeks since 24 appeared.

The last two weeks produced no ackpot winners, perhaps because on both occasions three of the six outright winning balls were numbered 40 and over.

The previous week saw several winners but only one winning ticket. which may well reflect the fact that two consecutive numbers, seven and eight came up.

If there is a lesson to be learned it is that if you choose consecutive numbers or several numbers closely bunched together you may not win very often, but when you do, you should win big. That seems to be the basis behind the tactics of the lottery possible combination of numbers only the second time and that after syndicates like the International Lotto Fund.

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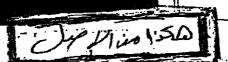
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FEAR OF FINANCE **Clifford German**

ext Wednesday the Norwich Union announces its rever-sionary bonus rate for 1995, the figure which is added each year to the accumulated value of endowment policies. It will provide the first clues as to whether the 20 per cent rise in share prices last year was enough to end the trend towards shrinking bonuses, which set in at the start of the Nineties.

Those shrinking bonuses set home-owners thinking the unthinkable, that the profits insurance companies generated on their endowment policies might not be enough to pay off the mortgage when it matured, let alone pay the fat surplus which home-owners had been led to expect when they switched their repayment mortgages to endowments by the million in the Eighties. Arguably, it was the sudden realisation that endowment policies might not be sure-fire investments which undermined the housing market.

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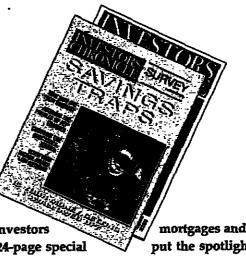
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SCOTTISH WIDOWS



CINEMA

Crimson Tide One of the thrillers of the year, starring Denzel Washington and Gene Hackman, which takes place within the confines of a nuclear

Land and Freedom Ken Loach investigates the political conflicts which thrived during the Spanish Civil War. Jim Allen's screenplay gets to the heart of the people as well as the politics. Seven (above) Just as the serial-killer genre seemed to be growing blunt, in sweeps David | Wind in the Willows (above) No children are

Fincher, with a movie about evil which keeps a

distance from its subject. A film you won't be able

to shake from your memory.

Ryan Gilbey

THEATRE

Dead Funny Terry Johnson's hit comedy more: than lives up to its title. Belly laughs and tears before bedtime. Closes next Saturday. Savoy

Theatre, London WC2 ... The Duchess of Malfi Anastasia Hille is shockingly good in this extraordinarily well-conceived interpretation of Webster's tremendous Jacobean tragedy. Seriously intelligent theatre. Wyndham's Theatre, London WC2

needed to justify seeing Alan Bennett's sublime adaptation, magically brought to life via designer Mark Thompson, Old Vic., Landon SE1

David Benedict

EXHIBITIONS

Art and Power (above) attempts to define the impact on art of the three key European totalitarian nations, Germany, tray and Russia, from 1930-1945. Hayward Gallery, London SEI Africa, the Art of a Continent The central focus of last year's Africa season: a redoubtable feat of curatorial ingenuity. Royal Academy, London W.I. Now, Wash Your Hands For more than three centuries the theme of personal hygiene and the everyday object has intrigued artists. Here, in the work of nine young Britons, it is given a new stant. Look out in particular for Hadrian Piggott's fetishistic video. Amolfini, Bristol

Hain Gale

POP

G Love & Special Sauce Daft lyrics and warped funk that flirts with the blues from these lovers of musical hybrid. Electric Ballroom, London NW1 (0181-485 9006) 11 Jan Rocket from the Crypt (above) The much awaited

London shows with two albums, Hot Charity and Scream Dracula, Scream! Garage, London NW1 (0171-507-1818) tonight Scheer Ireland's ethereal metallists take their broody souls to Bedford, as they by to make inroads in to the British indie circuit. Bedford

Angela Lewis

CLASSICAL

Travelling Opera's New Year stopover ends with their famous production of Cosi fan tutte (above) in this witty staging by founder-director Peter Knapp. Barbican Hall, London EC1, tonight Andrea Quinn and the London Philhamson Youth Orchestra move to occupy the gap at the rock blazers from San Diego arrive for their debut Gawain, OEH, London SE1, Sun 7.45pm The Lindsay Quartet continue their cycle of the ling. Sadler's Wells, London ECI string quarters. This third instalment centres on Northern Ballet Theatre's revival of Gable's pop. Op 95 and ends with the B flat quarter, Op 130. | utar production of A Christmas Carol features much Wigmore Hall, London W1, tonight 7.30pm

Robert Maycock

DANCE

English National Ballet's The Nutcracker sees its last two performances today. Although deeply unpopular with critics, Ben Stevenson's flashy oxoduction has served the company well in terms of revenue. Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 London City Ballet's run at Sadler's Wells also ends today. Matthew Hart's Cinderella (above) includes Britten, Birtwistle and a helity chank of may not match up to Ashton's synthesis of sweetness and slapstick but the overall effect is pleas-

ga ayin seri seri

Christmas jollity. Edinburgh Festival Theatre Louise Levene ا با بازائی در مهاری

- "

arts and entertainment listings

critics' choice

FILM

WEST END 6 - ALSO COLUMN LANDON

ACE YENTORA: WHEN NATURE CALLS (PG) The 9 AC Penning a wife nature and a restar FO 1 for per detective is back with a mission to rescue the African white bat. Trocadero MCM 12 10, 110, 230, 330, 530, 500, 500, 725, 625, 940, Ramer Mer End (1205, 1235, 145, 4,10, 430, 630, 650, 8,40, 9,00, 11,00, 11,10

ALL MER ARE MORTOL (15) Unconvenional and map map and the crist entitlest actives who falls in love with an internal prince. Hermarket MGM Sat 230 45% 7.10, 925; Sun 150, 405, 625, 835; Warner West End 120, 350, 610, 820, 1045

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT (15) The president falls for an environmental lobbyist who is unconvinced by his attempts at woung her. Empire Lencoure Square 1.00, 3.25, 6.00, 8.25 (Satt. 11.20 (Satt. Tocodero. MGM 1250, 5.15, 6.10, 9.10, 12midright

 APBILD 13 (PG) Based on the true story of the 1970 Apollo 13 meson that cal of the 1970 spool of the standard maked in three auronauts being stranded in space. Empire Leacener Space (2000), 245, 550, 845 (San. 1) 15 (San.

9.00. 11.3(1.5a)) © IN THE BLEAK SERVINTER (15) A modey col-lection of actors much in a condemned vil-

lage church to rehearse their production of Hamlet, Touchham Court Reed MGM 1.45. 4 15, 6.55, 9.30; Odeon Haymarket 1.30, 4,00, 6,30, 8,50 BRIVENEART (15) Mel Gibson directs and stars as the 14th century Scottish hero William Wallace who unites his country against the cvil English Ling. Odeon Memo-nue 250, 7,40; Plana 12,30, 430, 7,51.

11.00 (Sat)

THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COURTY (12) Clint

and educes as a photogram-

Eastwood directs and stars as a photonour-nalest who has an affair with a lonely THE PROTHERS NICHOLLER (15) Three

American brothers are studen by the death of their father into a warch for time love and happiness. Tottenham Court Road MGM 1.35, 4.35, 7.05, 9.45; Odeon Mexa-rune 3.15, 6.20, 8.40 CARRINGTON (18) A bohemian artist m

Victorian England gets closer to the man she loves by marrying his gay lover. Punion Street MGM 2.15, 5.40, 9.00 (Sat) • CITY OF LOST CHADREN (15) A man frong on a descried oil ng who is ageing prema-turely because he cannot dream hidners children from the harbour from to steal

CLEFIESS (12) Beverley Hills 91210 on the

ONINSON TIDE (15) Submarine thriller where US navy herres try to prevent the Soviet-owned nuclear missile launch anned for the West. See criters choice. Trocaters MCM 12.10, 3.10, 6.10, 9.10, 12 mininght Sat): Odean Messarine 245, 5.55, 8.35 FLISA (15) A feasily young woman who was abandoned as a young child is determined to find her father and gain her revenge. MGM Swiss Centre 1.55, 4.15, 6.45 (Sat).

THE ERRECIST (18) Landa Blaur is possessed (3) FARMELLS (15) Biomic of an 18th century

castrato singer who shares women with hi manipulative brother, MGM Swiss Centre 200, 4.20, 6.45 (Sai), 9.20 (Sai) O FOUR POORS (18) A frenzied hotel bell xiv links four mini films directed by DN Intes four minims circeien by Quientin Larantino, Alexandric Rockwell, Allison Anders and Robert Rodriguez, Havmarket MCM Sat 1.55, 4.10, 6.45, 9.20 San 1.10, 3.40, 6.10, 8.40, Warner West End 2.10, 4.50, 7.00, 9.20, 11.55

O FRENCH ISS (12) Mag Ryan stars as a plu-ed flancee who follows her ex to France in an altempt to win him back. Wirner Wee Co. L. on a re-

CHOST IN THE SHELL (15) Japanese anumation about a futuristic city that is dominated by a mysterious computer backer. Tracadens MGM 4:30, 6:30, 8:15, 12midnight (Sut) © SOLDEETE [12] James Bond reincurnate by Pierce Brosnan, this time single-handed by deteating Russian arms dealers. Othern Marthe Arch 3.05 to 00, 8.55; Odeon West End 12:30, 3-15, 6,00, 8,50, 11,45 (Sut)

LA HAME (15) Depoction of the escalating tensions in a group of ethnically mated teenagers and the ensuing riot. Staffestury. Avenue MGM 2.41, 5.50, 8.50 BERT (15) Haymarket MGM Sat 1 45, 4.15, 6.45, 9.20; Sun 1.25, 3.50; 6.15, 8.40; Renor 1.55, 4.10, 6.30, 5.50

THE HORSEMAN ON THE ROOF (15) Epic 19th centure adventure starring Juliette Binoche, Barbican Cinema 3.01, 6.00, 8.40; Chebra Cinema 2.20 5.15, 8.15; Curson Markov I 45, 5.34, 8.15; Lumiere 2.20, 5.15.

● Listo 2 FREEDOM (15) Ken Louch's film about a Loserpadian communist dole who joins the revolutionary section of the mili-tia in 1926 Spain. See orders choice. Con-ference 1.15, 2-40, 6.08, 8.20 LMBS IN OSLIPROS (15) The treats and tribula-

tions of a director experiencing a call-strophic day's filming. *Pamon Street MGM* 2.10, 4.40, 7.15 (Satt. 9.35 (Sat) 2.10. 4.40. - 15 (Satt. 9.35 (Satt)
THE MADRESS OF ORDS GENERAL POST Nicholas
Hyther's film of Alan Bermen's connects
about George III's spell of unsanin MGM
Suits Centre 2.00. 4.40. 6.45 (Satt. 9.30)

(Soft)
MUNDER IN THE FIRST (15) An idealistic strong lawyer', first case is to defend an Adeatrac pressure who committed murder in front of 20% numeroes, Numer West End (2.45–3.25, 6.60, 8.50, 11.30) AL POSTINO (15) A postman hared purely to deliver far-mod to an excled poet seeks his help with matters of the heart. Panton Street MGM 200, 4.21, 6.50 (Sat), 9.21

(Saty, Shallesbury Avenue MGM 210, 5.25, THE SANTA CLAUSE (U) Home improve ment's Tim Allen stars as a non-believer who is oriend to take Father C's place when he catches him breaking in. Odeon Bew End 120, 345, 620, 8345

SPIS) (15) The seven deadly sits form the hass for a series of murders that stump hornicale detectives. See critical choice. Bar-tesian Chema 3,30 (30), 6,15, 80. Gate Network Holl (15, 3,50, 0,20, 9,00, 11,30) (Sa) + Tan Driver (1.00m), Shallow Grave (3.05am), True Romance (4.50am); Rott Ci Rd MGM 2.35, 0.30, 9.15; Odeon Lete Sq (2.00m), 2.50, 5.50, 8.45, 11.40 (Sa) SPANCING TRAD (13) Set in 1930s Chura fol-lowing the glamarous and flamboyant lives of prominent gangsters and their molts. Curran West Find 1 (0), 3,30, 6,05, 8,40 SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT (LS) Julia Roberts

SIMELINIA IN URA ABOUT (15) Juda Roberto plays a contented Inosewife whose file falls apart when she discovers her husband is untautiful. Thocadero MGM 1225, 240, 455, 7,10, 939; Memor Best End 12,10, 240, 530, 7,20, 9,40, 12midnight turn of Swan Lake, with the voices of John Cleese and Jack Palance. *Translero MGM* 12,25, 2,30

THE THAT BINDS (18) The adontive parents blood father, determined to reclaim his daughter, Plant 150, 405, 0.20, 8.35, 11.40

13at)

10 DE FOR (15) Nicole Kidman plays an aspiring TV star who enlists the help of a teenager to murder her husband. Piccoulilly Art J. A. 3.45, 6.10, 8.40 (Sat): Odeon Microanus 2.55, 6.15, 8.40; Warner West End 3.20, 8.30, 11.10

TO WONG FOO (PG) Patrick Swavze slicks on the lippy to star as a drag queen driving across America for a beauty queen contest than 1,40, 4,00, 6,20, 8,45, 11,30 (Sat) THE ISSUAL SUSPECTS (18) Five known ■ The ISDM, SMSPETS (18) Five known feloris are arrested after a truck heist, and commit another crume during investigations that ends with 27 corpses and 891 million gone messag. Panton Street MGM 2,05, 4,31, 7,70 (Sat), 9,25 (Sat); Marner Mest End 1,35, 4,16, 6,20, 9,10, 11,40
A WALE BY THE CLODES (PG) Kearus Reversions or dispersion of the property o

common or mis wassuus (PCF) Reanti Records stars as a depected world wan two vaseran who falls in love with the daughter of a vaneyard owner. Othern Messaume 3,01, 5,55, 8,25 ● WHEN NIGHT IS FALLENG (18) Romance about the relationship between a conven-tional Christian academic woman and a flamboyant circus performer. Piccadilh MGM 1,30, 3,45, 6,10, 8,40 (Sat) THE WHITE BALLOON (U) Transan tale about a young girl's struggle to buy a goldfish for the New Year's celebrations. Remoir 1.15.

3.10, 53(5, 73(5, 93)5

obene unabers 0171 сисері жһен поче Barbusan Cinema (AS 889): Chelsen Cin-ema (A) 3742; Curron Maylan 369 1729; Curron Phoenic 369 1721; Curron West Curron Phoene, 369 1721; Curron West End 369 1722; Empre Lexister Square 0990-xxx990; Gale Noting Hill 727 4043; Lundere 379 3014; Haymarket MGM 859 1527; Panton Street MGM 930 0041; Pie-cadilly MGM 437 3861; Shaftesbury Avenue MGM 836 6279; MGM 880s Cen-tre 437 2000; Tottenham Contr Road MGM 636 6148; Troundern MGM 434 0042; The Mineray 337 5275 (Alborn Hau-0032: The Minema 235-7225, Odeon Hay-market 870 3607; Odeon Leicester Square 930-3232: Odeon Marble Arch 01426-Odeon West End 930 5252; Plaza 0900-88890; Remon 837 8402; Warner West

Frid 437 4343. repertory cinemas EFERMAN opposite Humpstead Tube NW3 (017(-435 (\$25)

Set Degrees Of Separation (15) Ser

12.50pm, 4.50pm, 8.50pm + House Of Games (1813pm, 7pm The Calmest of Dr Caligari (PG) Sun 1.10pm + Nesseratu (PG) 2.30pm Burnt By the San (13) Sun 4.15pm, 8.30pm + Yum's Childhord (PG) 0.45pm RACHEMATTE MAI SWI (1177-93) 36-47) The Kingdom (Parts 1 & 2) (15) Sur 1.30pm, 7.15pm; Sun 12.30pm, 6.15pm Anne Devim (PGYPeig Sur upm Four Days In July (15) The Cake Sur-Sun

Foll Large Sen Open
Family-Peig Sen Open
HATIGRAL FAIR HEARTE South Bank SE1
(1171-028 3232)
Dr No (PG) Sat 4, Open
Pocalmentas (U) Sat 4, Open
The Section (18) Sat 6pm

Pulp Fiction (18) Sat tipm Thunderhall (PG) Sat to 10pm Fear East The Soul (18) Set 7.30pm The Alman Queen (U) Set 8.40pm You Only Live Twice (PG) Set 8.45pm From Here To Etermity (PG) Set 3.50pm Pocahonias (U) Sun Apm Die Hard: With A Vengeance (15) Sun

from
The Men (PG) Sun 6.30pm
Furnaelli (15) Sun 7.30pm
Turksi Delight (Turks Frun) Sun 8.30pm
High Noon (PG) Sun 8.43pm
PRINCE CRAFLES Lescester Place WC2 (0171-

Die Hardt With A Vengeame. (15) Sat Ipm While You Were Skeeping (PG) Sat 3 30pm The Net (12) Sat Open The Set (12) at open
Jude (18) Sat 8/Spm
Pulp Fiction (18) Sat 10.30pm
Belove Sutrise 1151 San 1.43pm
Carrington (18) San 4pm
Spanking The Monkey (18) San 5.40pm
The Adventures Of Priscilla, Queen Of

The Desert (15) Sun A-Spin RIO CHEMA Kingsland High Street ES (017) mit dinema krippsanda Frigit Street Es (6/17)
Mr Nanny (PG) Sai Ham
Jeanne La Pucelle (PG) Sai-Sun 1.30pm
Seven (18) Sai-Sun ópm. 6.40pm, 11.15pm
Sail
RWERSDE STRINGS CHEMA Crisp Road WG

IMEAIKE

West End Choice Mainecs — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tisc. [4]: Wed. [5]: Thu, [6]: Fri. [7]: Sat COMMISSION DOORS

Alan Ayckhourn's comedy thriller.

Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494
50:5)

Picc Circ. Last performances today
3,th & 7.30, 28.50-224.

COMPANY Sam Mendes' revival of the 1970 Sondheim and George Furth musical.

Dromar Warehouse Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-364 1732) ⊕ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30, [4][7] 3.00, ends 2 Mar, £12-£24.

DEAD FUNDY Revival of Terry Johnson's hit comedy. See cruics' choses. Savor Strand, WCC 10171-836 8888-98c 836

THE DOCCHESS OF MALFI HE DIGHESS OF MUCH Chack By Josel perform John Webster's Jacobean tragedy, directed by Declan Donnellan. See trities' choice. Wyndham's Channg Cross Road. WC: (1171-369) 1736) ⊕ Leic Sq. Mon-Sot 7.30.

[5][7] 2.31 ends 27 Jan, £7.50-£19. THE GLASS MENAGERIE Zoe Wanamaker stars as the mother in Sum Mendes' production of Tennessee

Williams' tragic drama, Comedy Panton Street, SW1 (0171-364 1731) ⊕ Pice Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30, [7] 3 (7), ends 16 Mar, £5-£23. HOBSON'S CHOICE Haruld Brighrasse's wity controly. Lynr Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) ♦ Picc Cir., Mon-Sai 7.30, [7] 3.00, ends 3 Peb. 15-424.

HYSTERIA evival of Terry Johnson's farcical drama.

with Henry Grodman as Freud. Duke of York + St Martin's Lane, WC2 (9171-836/5122) ◆ Leic Sq/Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30. [5][7] 3.00. entls 27 Jan. £5-£22.50. (NO)AN HEK

Tom Shoppard's latest, with Niamh Cusuck, Paul Bhattacharjee and Mangaret Tyrack. Aldowch Aldowch, WC2 (0171-416 6003/cc 836 2429) © Hollborn, Last performances inday 3,00 & 7,30, £10-£25. AM HISPECTOR CALLS an instruction and the second and t

RUSON
Bran Conley as the Twenties entertainer.
Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-334 1317) BR-9-Victoria, Mon-Sat 7-20, [4][7] 310, £12-50-£30.

MACK & MAREL Musical account of Mack Sennet's enduring affair with actress Mahel Normand.

Phocalithe Domain Street, W1 (1971-369)
17341 © Picc Circ, Mon-Sat 7.45, [4][7] 3.00.

£17,50-£32,50. THE MASTER BURDER
Peter Hall directs Alan Baucs in Them's ntense look at a potentially exploitance threase took at a potentially experiments age-gap relationship.

Theatre Resul Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 SRU) 40 Piec Circ. Last performances toda 3,00 & 7.45, £10.£25.

ROTAL MINIMAL THEATRE; times for today.

folgene Michael Gambon in Manhow Warchus production of Ben Jonson's Today 2.01 & 7.15.

The Way III The World Geraldine McEwan and From Shaw in Phyllida Lloyd's production of Congress's councy. Today 2, 15 & 7.30.

Cyrano Brillywood's Nascernaddin Shala in Rosopram penywhich is relocated to 76. India. Today 2.50 & 7.30. Ulayer & Extretion: 17.54 (22.5) Contes-lor: (10-1/4.5) Day seats from 10am. South Bank. SEI (0171-928 2252) BR/O

Waterlou. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPARY TIMES for foda-A Christmas Carol Ian Judge's production of

Dickens' tide returns Today 2:00 & 7.15. The Pix Cain Byron's tragic biblical drama is directed by John Barion. Today 2,10 & 7,15. Barbican Theatre: £0-£24. The Pit: £10-£10. Barbican Centre, £C2 (0171-638

991) O Barbican/Moorgate. PRISONER CELL BLOCK H Patients Lett account in a musical parody of the cult TV series.

Queen's Shallesbury Avenue. W1 (017)-494
\$180) \times Pice Circ. Mon-Thu 8.00, Fri & Sar
8.45, [7] 6.00, ends 13 Jan. £7.50-£24, charity

RUPERT STREET LONELY HEARTS CLITB A Liverpudian love story.

Criterion Piccudilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) ← Picc Circ. Tue-Sat 8.00. Sun 7.00. [7] 4.00. [1] 3.00. cruds 3 Mar. £5-£20.

THE SHAKESPEARE REWIE Satirical Shakespearcan revue devised by Christopher Luscombe and Makolm

MEAGE: 1. MARCH 18 MA Stark but exciting adaptation of Irone Welsh's chilling insight into Edinburgh's drug culture. Ambassadors West Street, WC2 (0171-856)

611 Ucc 836 1171 | ← Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 8.00. Sat 8.30, [4][7] 5.00, ends 27 Jan, £5-£16.50. 推制的操作和LONG See critics' choice.
Old 1 is: Watertoo Road, SE1 (0),71-928
6555) BR/-9 Watertoo, Mon-Sat 7,34,[4][7]
2,37), ends 30 Mar, £6,75-£24,75.

THE WITHING THE BLACK se Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2236) ◆ Covent Garden/Holborn KAN, [3] 3.00, [7] 4.00, £8.50-£20.

Around the country Stratford-upon-Avon ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE Refund II David Troughton hands Steven Pimlott's production of Stakespeare's political drama. In rep. today 1,34pm & 7,30pm, 1)-642, standing 14-59-65, comes positions.

ivaliane. Maleiside (0) 784-295623 i STORN THEATRE
Fast Goethe's epic drama about
temptation. In tep. today Part 1, 3pm. Part
2, 7,30pm. Ex 50-E28-50, cones available.

EXHIBITIONS

Bristol |

Plan West Year Hands Domesticity as explor by eight artists. See critics choice. Sat I fla 7pm, Sun (2009)n-6pm, ends 7 Jan, free. Narrow Quay (0) 17-929 9191; London MATHORY O'DETRY

holy Workel Vanitas: siculs and self-portraits. Mon-Fri 18an-5 JOpes, Sal 18am-1pm, ends

Dering St (0171-499 4100) Bond Street.

narman GRILEN Int and Power: Europe under the dictators 1839-1845 Ser oriein 'chain: Mon-Sun 10am-form (until Sym Tue & Wedl: ends 2/ Jan. £5, cones £3.50. Belvedere Road, SE1 (0)71-969 4242) BR 49 Waterfao.

Esquires (01234 340120) tonight

MATROMAL GALLERY Gods in Long. The Carracci Carloons Restored Ties restored drawings. Mon-Sat Jikan-6pm (Wed until Spm), Sun Zom-6pm, ends 14

(Wed until Spin), Sim Jean-Spin, entils 14
Jan, free.
Trafalgar Square, WCC (0171-859 3321)
O Charing Cross.
Miniball Portfish BALBER
Webard & Baria Daswy Life and art of a
Regency couple. Mon-Sat 10am-Spin, Sim
Lancon-Spin, entils 18 Feb. Ex, const. C.
St. Martin's Place, WCC (0171-306 0055)
O Charing Cross Leierster Square.
Books advanced the arts.

ROPAL ACADEMY OF ARTS

Africa: The Art of a Continent Explorer. African
art through the containers, See entire' chance.
Earth 3.1 Jan. 25, come 5.5-90.

Band Hockney Orawing retrospective: MorSun 10am-hpm, entir 38 Jan. 24-90, comes
23-50. Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1 (0171439) 7438) ◆ Piccadilly Circus Green Park

SERPHINE GILLERY
William british Gronze idols and untitled
paintings. Fri Sun Ham open, ends 7 Jan. Sensington Gardens, W2 (0) 71-723 (072)

 South Kersington Lancaster Crate. TATE GALLERY Mustries Pantag in Indo and Jacobson Engines 1530-1630 Pantangs, sculpture and tapestres including work by Hoffeen, Hillard and Rubers, Ends 7 Jan. 55, come 52. The Art of War Work by Nash, Rawliote and Moore, Mon-Sun Dum-F Stipen, ends 17. sties: Painting in Tudor and Jacobean England Mar, tree: Millbank, SW1 (017)-887 Silitor ⊕ Pimbao.

WHITECHAPEL ART GALLERY rmited nert of nation.

End Holde Oils, watercolours and prices by
German Expressionist. The Sun Ham-Spin
(Wed until Spin), ends 25 Feb. £450, comes
£250, free Tuesdays. Whitechard High Street, E1 (0171-522)

78881 & Aldgate East. COMEDY

London SAMANA CABARET AT THE BEDFORD Mare Blake, Simon Bligh, Boothby Graffice & Kevin Hayes. Sat 9pm. Bedford Hitt. SW12 (0181-673-1756) ⊕ Balham. 56, comes €4.

KHIICI FURS RATTERSEA hindighis doi index. Kenth Fields MCs for Kevin Day, Rady Lickwood, John Moloney & Owen O'Neill. Sat 7,15pm & 11,15pm, Lavender Gardens. SW11 (0) 71-924 2766) BR: Clapham

ion, £10, conc. £7. EDHELFURS CANDER Mike Hayley, Hattie Hayridge, Milton Jones & Steve Rawlings with Tim Clark

MCing Sat 7.15pm & 11.15pm, Chalk Farm Rd 10171-924 2765) & Camden Town, £10. COMESTY STORF PLAYERS Mail Ashdoren, Simon Clayton, Sarah

CLASSICAL

Cardiff TTACK SCOUNG IS dianal Youth Orchestra of Great Britain/Seaman Pager's Cockaigne Overme, Derek Bougeons Costwold Symphore and Brahas 4th Symphony, Tonight, 7,50pm, £0-£19. The Haws (#1222-878441)

London BARBICAN HALL eral Philharmenic/Wright Rossma, Handel, Tehnik nody's 1st Piano Concerto and Beethoven's 3rd Symphony, Sun 7.30pm.

19 50-€25 50. Bartrican Centre: (0171-638 8091) ↔ Moorgate. PURCEL ROOM Solvisis of the Royal Opera House Brahms' Op. 18 String Sexict and Schubert's D956 Quintet. Sun J. 15pm. 16.50-19.50.

Messak Siring (name) A string quariet from Paul Newlan, with Gilbert's 3rd and Hellawell's Sull Dancers, Sun figur, £4.50-**Jelia Bayla** Solo marimha pieces, incla Cage's Four5, Sun 7,30pm, £5,50-£9,50, South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-962 4242)

London Phillestmonic Youth Cychestra/Coint

Britten's Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes, Birtwistle's Commun's Journey and

CODECON ELECABETH HALL

choice, Sun 7.45pm, 54-510. South Bank Centre, SEI (0171-96) 4242. BR & Waterico.

DANCE

London NUMBER SHITTER APOLLIO mentance - The Stew Line dance where with a

score in Bill Winder. Mon-Sat sym, mass Sats 2.30pm, ends 10 Feb. 218.50-27-30. Queen Caroline Street, No. (2171-216 6/89) → Hammersmit: ROOM FESTIVAL HALL English Kathenzat Railes: The Michaeles: Be o

segues namenta transce for materialses for Stevensor's territor of the traditional Names ballet. See order others foods 1257 and 7257 pm ds 225 (amily come materialses) 225 and 225 (amily come materialses) 225 and BR . Waterfee ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL FOTER

Tokan lisk Tap danding and was from Tak and guest puriorment. Toropic 12.3 per liput. South Bank (1977) OF ROLL & Witten St. ROYAL OPERA LOUSE Numer or make and the finding of the second Poster Production of the Parties of the second of the se

Covers Garden, WCC (0)71-304-4(3); • Covers Garden, ZLEW Z SERVAZ

Lighter Ding Ballah Sandardia Sandardia Gassas. Tradig Indopensa Turippo antan'i Anasas. Reschey Application (1998) • Angel

OPERA

London BARBICAN HALL TRAFELLISS GFERA
Cost has hore See Critic's Chronic. Transplis
"Hopen, \$12.50-219, copies available.
Barbican Centre, ECC (0171-659-5691)

LONDON COLSERAL ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA The Pearl Fishers Bized's operatives in Coylon. in Philip Procese's staging. Traight 7.30 pm. St Martin's Land, WCC 19171-632 5300;

◆ Leicester Square Charing Cross.

POP largia Agro-lank from a percession and sax Moies Club Gentre Street (61725-533425)

fonight year, 14, conce (3.5), raems 15, Bedford Pacherona, Livingstone, Schoot New Yorick bill with Osesic-associated Frankers Pushermon, Esquirer Bromham Read (19234-540) 201

Tonight Spin. E-E-St. Lichfield The Boat Band Propular cajum (cam. The Guildhall (01543-252223) Torright Spm. £4,50 cones £4.

London band including Haromand and horas. 100 Club Ordord Street W1 (1)171-636 1935) ⊕ Oxford Circus, Sun Spm, 9 The Bog Sta Fultics R&B and soul from Sugar

Ray Ford and Ricky Lee Brown.

Rottom Line Shepherd's Bush Green W12

(0181-749 1114)

Shepherd's Bush (0181-749 1144) ⊕ Shephera s busa.
Tonight Sprit. £5-£6
Ist Wikans Welch coharet singer.
Cafe Royal Regent Street W1 (0171-4379090) ⊕ Preguitily Circus Tonight 9pm,

Terry Edwards & Ten Scapegooks, Soul Bossa, The Dabbillis Quirky instrumentals from the Tinderstocks Callion Drunk hornplayer. Dublin Costle Parkway (017) 485 1773) & Camden Town, Tonight 3,30pm, 64. Rocket From The Cryst, Gold Blade, Super Farry Ani-

The Canage Highbury Corner NS (0171-617) 1818/cr 344 (0144) & Highbury & Wington. Tunight Spin. 57. The Finding Barstenants Seventies covers The Grand Clopham Junction SW11 (0171-738 0000jc; 344 (044) BR: Clapham Junc-

is anost; see 1000) Dre Capitalii Juffe-tian. Tonight 8pm, £7. £6 with fiver.

Man Falgert Glam rock caharet.

Mean Fiddler Harkeden High Street NW10 (1)81-961 5490) BR: Willesden Junction.

Tonight Street Babbi Cassell. hased singer-songwriting.

Mean Fiddler, Acoustic Room High Street
(0181-961 54919cc 734 6932) BR: Willesden
Junesson, Tonight Spin, 15, means Ex.

Smiler, Graffe Punky new guitar bunds. The Monarch Chalk Farm Road NW1 (017)-916 1049) & Chalk Farm. Sun Spra,

phone for prices.

Coin John & Francis Textur-style blues from
the former Albert Cellins side-mean
the former Bramber Ruad W10140171727 40551 & Latimer Ruad Tonight N. Spon, 1996.
Was Medium Country, blues and Tex-Mex.
Tonight N. Alpri. 25.
Big Sg Roots dimer hand featuring ex-members of The Bearety Works.
The Bearety Newsington Groun Rd (0171-22): 66711 & Highbury & Islangton, Sandra 33pm free.

Reading

Thereas Cocky Orderd mod-populers Allegest Gun Street (01734-561116) Tonight Span, 14. iazz, world, folk etc

<u>London</u> Corries Estand Funky Hammond organ scan. Jun; Cale Parkway NWI (0171-344 0144) & Canden Dwn, Toraght Span, £12, ach £10. Keth Topett Grazikal puzzo muster plays

Aut. Cate Parisway NW1 (0171-344 0044)

O Camben Town, Sun Tym, £10, nov £8.
Pail Michae Reger larger Resease Machiness/John
Batcher Verzal-led ince mayoris.
Mypomato at The Real Rate Seven Sisters
Rd 10171-263 77-55) O Frankruy Pk, Sun
Andrease States of the Real Rate Seven Sisters
Rd 10171-263 77-55) O Frankruy Pk, Sun m. 14. como 25, mento & eneras welcom

Spin. 14, cross 25, ments & guests welcome line they 4 Jeeps Bushwork Playing Gershwon Rodgers & Hart, Ellington and Bacharach Parecii Reseas South Bank Centre SE1 (4) 71-962 3-252 & Waterloo. Tonight Harlens Show & Jean Cares L. S avant-soul

The Rivilanie Chapel Market NI (0171-58591 & Angel. Tonight & Sun. 9pm. £12, comes £10. Robin Welfors/Scatt Streams Charlet Romantic soun wagasystes stooms quarter rotation. Scots tenorist with top trombounist. Forer Strike Newington Church Street N16 (0)71-254 t516) BR: Stoke Newington. Tonight Spm, £7. Sunday at The Fairway Suite Old Herns Lane. Welvyn Garden City (6143671-7997) Sun Spm, £5, cones £4.

EVENTS <u>Aylesbury</u> ses from the television adaptat Buckinghamshure County Museum Church Street (01296-331441) Mon-Sat 10am-5pm.

Sun 2pm-5pm. ends 14 Jan, £1, child free. Blackw<u>ood</u> the and over. Motors Institute (01495-2273)(a) Today

2.30pm & 7.30pm, £4, cones £3. Brighton bluding in the Drama, comedy, music and baller in this show for all ages. Brighton Contre King's Road (01273-20281) Tue-Thu 2pm, Fri 7, 30pm, Set 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, Sun 2pm, 5pm, ends 28 Jan, phone for details.

Croydon Starteck Hotsus & The Gocktower Mystery Dra-mats: exhibition allowing you to help solve matic exhibition and wing you to help solve the Clocktower murder. Crendon Chektower Brailmaine Hall Katherine Street (III81-253 1030) Mon-Sat 13m-5pm, Sun 12noon-5pm, ends 10 Mar, £3.50, cones £1.75.

London ragor user tampen Extintion celebrating. S years of Rupert The Bear stories. Bellmal Green Museum of Childhood Cam-bridge Heath Road E2 (UIS1-983-5200) BR: Bethnal Green, Mon-Tru & Sat 10mm 5.50pm, Sun 2.30pm-5.50pm, ends 21 Jan.

Haze's Circus Of Horrors A massy vision of life directed by the creator of Archaos. Crystal Palace Panale SE 19 (01K)-77682001 BR: Crystal Palace. Sot 4pm & 8pm. Sun London International Boat Stem All the latest in boats, equipment and holidays. Earls Court Establition Court Warshck Road SWS (0171-373 8141) Mon-Sun

10am-7ym (11 Jan, 10am-9,90pm, 14 Jan, 10am-opm), ends 14 Jan, 23-50, cones £0.50, after 4pm £5.50. Huder The See Jan Hoya Lagends and fairy The Grace Theare Battersea Park Road SW11 (0171-223 3549) Chapham Junction. SWIT (0171-23-3549) Cappum Junction. Today & Sun Apon, EA. The Guiden Torond Of Unity Exhibition attempt-ing to caplain the trysteries of Islam Orange Museum of Community History Neussien Lame (0181-908 7432) Mon-Pri Ham-Spra. Sat 10mm-Spra, ends 28 Feb. free.

dancers.
London Arena Lameharbour, Isle of Dogs-E14 (0171-538 1212) DLR: Cross Harbour. E14 (0171-338 LLC) DLEC cross random Feder, phone for times, (10-E2-50, Outresie Exhibition of comies by 34 Euro-pean artists which were commissioned for the MTV Europe Music Awards. Automal Minerum of Cortoon Art Cardage Row, Evensholt Street NWI (0171-388

432h) Mon-Fri 12pm-6pm, ends 10 Jan. phone for details.

Assumed Piss... A calcivation of the artwork created during the making of arumited films from the 1940s to the present.

Museum of the Moving Image South Bank SE1 (0171-928 3232) & Waterioo Embani

ment. Today & Son 10am-topu. E5.50, cones £4, students £4.70, family £16, under cones 14, students 14.70, family 110, under 5s free.

International Model Store and The Model Engineer

Entition Hundreds of models on display with demonstrations and lecture.

Obsepta Hunmersmith Road W14 (017)
603 3344)

Earls Court, Teday (Liam
6pta, 57, cores 15, child 5350, family 11s.

The Bable How Engil Char Charters. Tile Raddet Maris Bree Santa Chass Christinas

adventure for all the family, Pupper Theatre Burge, Linke Venuce Blum-field Road W9 (0171-249 6876) & Warwick Avenue, Today & Sun 3pm, £5.50, cones

 Schait Sahinkasen Ennervainment wearing dance, aerobaties and comedy. Royal Albert Hall Kensington Gone SW7 (0171-589 K212)

High Street Kensington, Today & Sun, 13 Jun, 230pm & 7.45pm. 10-12, 14 Jun. 7.45pm. £22-£35. Norwich_

Innabilita Puppets, stocytelling and five music for ages three to six. Norwich Pupper Theorie St James's, White-frians (01603-629921) Today Ham, Sup 2pm, £3 75. Oxford

OAOU United Stone two hundred children's broks dating from 1985 to 1830 Bodlean Library, Broad Street (01865-277000) Mon-Fri Sam-Alpan, Sat Sam-Uncore, ends 20 Jan. Iree. Entroderies From Islanic learners Exhibitions following Sheila Paine and her journey to discover more about its textiles.

Par Rivers Museum South Parks Rd (11865-27(9)27) Mon-Sar 1pm-4_13pm, ends 30

Ари, босс. Worthing The Christmas Show An exploration of the history of Curistmas, Printing Museum & Art Gullery Chapel Road (U. 463-239999) Today

AUCTIONS hybian, horbile Sale 1/2 tender of 10,000 records 45s, 76s, LPs, Friday (10am-4pm), Avisham Satercours, Paimers Lane (G.A.Key 01247-733195). urday (11am). The Auction Centre, 2-12 The Crescent, Salford (Charles Taylor 0(61-737 2255).

Biomeria, Berthants: 43 vantage and collec-tors' tractors, ploughs and assorted cult vating equipment, next Saturday (11am) at Northampton Road (01799-513131). Northampton Road (01799-513131). Braningan: Pawobrokers unredeemed jew ellery, Thursday (10.30am). Augusta House, 19 Augusta Street, Hockley (Fel-lows & Sons 0121-212 2131). Potartifidi: Photocopies; boxed television buby clothes, jewellery and office furniture. Thesday (10.30am). Mediams, Se Upper Adhura Industrial Park, London Road (01730-895363). Samulus Cameras, televisions, videos, brey-ties, chipa, glassware, next Salurday (10m), Swindon Auction Rooms, The Planks, Old Them (01793-615915). Autiques Trade Gazerte (11171-930-4957). Government Auction News (0171-753 Swindow Cameras, televisions, videos, incy-

7300, hotline 0891-887700).

FAIRS When Interestional Autopus and Collecture: 1,000 indoor and outdoor priches, South of England Showground, Ardingly, Sussex, Wednesday (LACF 01636-702326). Wetnesday (Cr. Victor Joseph Latt.)
Hind Lendon Antiques: Rensington Town Hall,
Hormon Street. London W8, ThursdaySunday (Penman 01444-4825141.
Lundon Dennies: Cumberland Hotel, MarbleArch, Friday-Sunday (Walkefield Ceramics
Faits 01905-770091). rosto 41703-170071). Les falles Leitans Cartin: 230 stands and furni-jure pitches. Picketts Lock Lanc, Edmon-ton, London NV, tomorrow (Fax 01444-400570).

Structured Centre: Docktinghors: Rd, 250 andoor stalls, tomorrow (0) 702-300112).

North Cotsook's Integrate: Stanway House, near Winchcombe, Glovescombin, ne

near Winchoumbe, Ghoucestenshir, Saharday (Cooper 01249-061111).

church services

First Sunday After Epiphany CREMENT CHEMIL, Ram HC, Q.Mam Manne; Ham Sing Encharls, Mars for three volues (Byrds, The Rev B.W. Pearson; 3 15pm Peendoug, Someon in G: 9, Mym Campline, The Rev D'S, Naumann, Will Bufffle, Sinn R. Stem Hc; Diam, Sing Luchanni, Man of the, quiet bour (Olderys), Carlon Rocald Micraffer I. Diam Matina; 4pm Livensong, Noble in B mmor, Canon Dr John By

sees opin Lacras Estanois, Harvovici in A Jaz, 1 te Provisti CHEMEN CHIBBER, San HC, 1 tam Sing Enchance ford in B flat. The Treasurer, 1 tam Sing Enchance of the Epiphany, Ireland in C, The Rath Rev Movils Maddocks, 1 Opin Evensung Opin Espekani Proresiston.

25/102 GITEDBER 2 Sam HC * 0.45-cm *sone Eucharres.

O little one owner (Bach), Probandary John Parkmson: 11 15-am Monnas. Canon David Issue, John Evennang, Loope Ee loose (Kormatas) 6.00m Evening.

Service, Franchite raving of the stan (Ouveley), The

GRINGIBI DENERBAL Nam HC, The Rev I're Las Febrar; 9.45mm Surg Eucharist, Maca due pressure i Visalaus), The Rev Alascur Heraric, 11.15m Marina, Hebrari at, Fine Rev Sa dion Allevario, Olym Eventonia, Somision in G. Canori Branch, Olym Eventonia, Somision in G. Canori Branch, G. Grand Branch, G. Grand Branch, G. G. (1988), G.

Encurons, THESE CONFERENCE, SAM HIC. 9.15am Parish Electricis, Brightest and best Hartharl, Carron Rivator. Hardware, Comession service (Walnut, The Province of Lagran H.C. 6.35am Issaesson, Served survey of Legisland, The Province of Legisland, The Parish Hardware, Samuel Conference of Legisland, The Chanceller, The

Clarical Special Control of the Caraca Color Caraca Carac

WHOMESTER CUTHERRIL BARN HC; (U.Nam Sang Es-charnel, Missa brever, (Palestrope). The Bushqui J.Nepp. Eversong, Standard in A. Camen, Walker WHOMESTER GENERALLY, 9,2 tono Farmile Eucharists. Carrier David Thomas, (10,00m Song Encharse, Darke or F. Cancus Long MacKenner, 4 year Evening Provency, 6,40m Espelano, Service

CHONE Lineard Calestris 7 20mp Martin, and Library. From Hab Cacharris, The Rev Boxes-Har Khaos San Praids Encharis with bruder School Cipplany, Usan Sang Encharis, Harris in F. The Rev J.F. Reslover Libraris 12 Uspin Holy Encharis: 3-Upon Choral Escalacies, Plansion in E. Cari, 5-Upon Parish Escan-To mater.
ST DRINGS CATHERDIAL ASTO H.C. 9. Steam Cymnen Benels.
ST DRINGS CATHERDIAL ASTO H.C. 9. Steam Martins, Iroland in
H. The Canons Span Charal Eventone, Nathle in B
namor, The Mayor Canon.

WESTIMINSTEE CHINGHALL Fram. Some, Yearn Musee, Horn Mortaning Propers, (IL Norm Salaman Marce, Missa pro-maths on nobia (Salias, 1 Japan Musee, N. Open Sovietan Vespers and Benedictore, Maganifaci prum tom Septimon, 5 Johns, Yearn Musee, CHINGHALL OF THE WINGE WESTIM Freed, Orthodolo, London Will 9 Jaham Marcos, Ham Divane Littu-ty. Byrantine Chand and Choval Musee, song un properson. Licole.

COMPANIES.

COMPANIES

Ham Theophetry - Arthendra Christians

Chapil Rayal, St. James a Palacet S. Rinn HC, 11.15 and

Manning Prayer. Jests the very thought of thos

(Barraws), Caron G. Jones.

Chapil Rayal, Fower of London 9.15 and HC. 11 and

Marine and Sermon, Short tervier (Orbitole),

Canon 1.63 M.W. Murphy.

Chapil Rayal, Hampton Court 8 Mans HC. 11 and

Chorol Enchants, Darks in E. J. 30per Economy,

Short server (Arbertand),

Grant in England, South Analley Street, Wit 8 15 am

HC. 11 am Song Euchieres, Darks in F. The Rev Server Hobbs.

Bands Rayal, South Analley Street, Wit 8 15 am

HC. 11 am Song Euchieres, Darks in F. The Rev Server Hobbs.

Charal HC. Stanlard in C. The Rev Employe

Loyce. charise: Ham Charad Euchard, Balaup Rachard
Chartee,
finity Bird, Sionne Strucet, SW1; A-15em HC, Ham
Sung Enchartet, Darke as F. The Rector.
31 shas the Burket Hollvore, EC:1-9.35em Song
Mose; Ham Solem Mans, Maes as the cpb (Malcolon); 3.35pm Caradi Belove the Suprament.
Briefeth, Fleet Struce, HC vi Ham Charal Manns and
Enchard, Mann bevels (B, ric ley). Cannel John
Duter A-30pm Charad Eugenspag, Sumines in G,
Canne John Chara.
Stimmed Banks, Armed, W.C.: Ham Charal Becharter,
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3. Spring a. Cheromorth, Stract, NW1: 10.30am Mattas, Ham Sulcent Myon, The Vicat.

2. Sungula, Bloomphary, 10ham Sung, Bacharite: 6, 30pt Evening Player.

3. Sungula, Hamwer Spance, W1: 8, Near HC: Ham Sung, Linchures, Sunnsion in F. The Restor.

Shope Satistingto, Carick Hall, EC4: 10.30no; Song Bucharrat, The Rev John Paul. 2 Islant, Stratford Broanfray, E15. (Lorn Contaily Communico, The Rev David Rakande, 4.70pm Evening, Prayer and Prasse, The Rev David Schards. At Sainte, Margaret Survet, WT: Ram Low Maste 10.2kum Myerante Proyer: 1 Isam Hyld Mass, Meane volumedile (Vierne), The Row R. Fellomanore, 5,15pm, Low Most, Spm Stelem Because, and Bentadestand, Gloscomer cervity (Novalla), The Viern , 40 Sainte, Prince Bergler, 5 We Sum HC: 9,30nm Sung Eurtharyt II Jülam Family Encharst, Spm Sung Eurtharyt II Jülam Family Encharst, Spm Sung Enchartst; 11.30am Family Enchartst; open source Excensions. 81 Sunt; Langharty Placot, W1: Sunt; (IC: 11am, The Stery Solot, Corole G. Stem, The Rev Rico Tax. Sustain 60 Garch, Ohi Church Street, SW2: Ran HC, Ham Childharth Servect, Linn Mattins, The Rev Dr. P. Elsy. 12. LSpin HC, open Drustone, The Rev Dr. P. Elsy. Rob Willing, Brouspass Road, SW7: Sunt HC, 11am Informal Service, Mrs. Jo Olem, Spin, 7.30pm Informal Service, Spin, Spin, Robert Encharter, 11am Chard Enchartst, Balsup Rachard Chartree.

Evening Proyer and Praise. The Rev David Research. States of the States titory findingston, Kasmungton Park Road, NEV; Junean Sarish Mess, Fr Analisew Name, Sonn Mass. Parish Mest, 17 Amiron Nutri. Spin Mass, 28th y Roume Street, Wit Sam, Olan Line Mass, Ham High Mass, Mesh purt natus est pro-ports (Guernero), Cupon Roger Greenaere, upon Solema Evenserop and Solema Benediction, Tom Low Eventory and Secure Organization (1981) Rep. Hel. McDom March Persons Hill, NW) Rep. Hel. McDom Parels Eughard, The Rey Irdin Ownship, france, 28 Wichard and Majagis, Desland Park, Wei Sam Hel. Helm Parels I techanic, Osloym Lo, norme.

Russ innerer

3 Phar's. Exton Square. 5W r. R. Sam HC. 10am
Farmy Six hards. 11am burng Englaren. Mesta cage
both (Text.). F. D. H. Tike.
3 Phar's. Struchaot. 5W16 Sam Lus Mans. (1. Mans.
5 Phar's. Struchaot. 5W16 Sam Lus Mans. (1. Mans.
5 Schmidt School, Wood in the Phryron in moder to 3thpin
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5 Shapharis, Chancier Road, 5W7, Spn., Sam Lus
Mass. 11am Soleum Mans. Messa O quan glothesam Victorius. Canon Christopher Colvett.
8 What's, Poster Lun, Et. 21 I am Sing Mans. Comcounty, werker (White). The Rev Anthory Speakman. touch mercer (white) the Rev Anthony Speak-man, hope Church, Flect Miret, ECA, Machine HC. 11.15am Morning Prayer, Stanford in B that, The Marter

I MacLeod Own Cost (Church of Scotland), Resell Street, WC2, 11 ISon, 6.Wpm, The Rev Stanles Hood. W.C., 11 Linna, 6. Septil, The Rev. Name's Price.

The Lady of the Remorption Warrench Street, Wi. Sum.

High Manc I Jam Some Lovin Mass, Misson ad libeturn [Bournete-Mel.], I Jun. Jun. John Mass.

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Latin Mass, Melea Simen definitions on Decr (Harnis);

[2.15pen Mass, Pather François Edwards, 4.15pm.

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[Messartt, I 2.30pm Mass, 3, Major Solemo Wegarts,

Rege, there's (Sheppand), 4.40pm, 7pm Mass.

The Good Simplery and the Lasty Stations Food, Penge East, SE20: 9.45am Rovery, 10am Tridenamo Mass. Finds Small Methodist Direck, WI: 10am HC. Donald Septer: 11am HC. David Gruse: 6.56pm HC. David Gruse: 6.56pm HC. Welmhaster Entral Hall (Methodist), SWI: 11am Merculas, Worston, The Rev Dr Peter Gravez, Jupo Concentral and Communion, The Rev Dr Pe-cer Corpect. Settled Biomits Hill Diagot, Readon Hill, Hamp-stead, NWI: 11am. The Rev Judah Walkar-Reggi-Jun Buesting Service. Submiss Bundes and Daugel, Meaning Hill, Hamp-stead, NVS, 1 Jam. The Peer Joshich Walker-Regge, Jem Beseiting Service.

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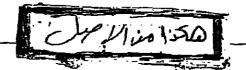
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It Remain partial English Durch, Shalls, Share Avenue, W.2.: 11.m., 6. Nipon, The Rev Harrie Hilbert Westmenter Busting, Society of Friends (Puakers), 57.51 Martin's Late, W.2.: 11am Meeting for Worshing

Final Scients Mari, bym Mari, T Min Sciental Lear HC, R. Fam Marine Lion Sone Encharat. Minsa salve intenerina Virgo (Balan Carona John Haiffenton, M. Sym Evencong, Grav in Famor, The Rev Jon Gollum, BERBINGER BERF Sam HC. Ham Marine, Witen Jo sartour Lovel Mendelscolan), Ann Morroy, I. Lifam Alway Encharat. Ireland in C. The Rev Josetham Creacht. Sym Evencong, Caron Anthrop Harvey, 9. Stym Organ Routal, Martin Baler, 6. Dipnt Eventials Service. Caron Doubt Hurt. SHERBERT GERBERT, Vent Encharts; Ham Choral Encharts. World in th. Physion in ed., Carona Roper Royle, Sym Carona Evencong, Banstow in D. The Rev Gory Stutture, O. Show Book, of Common Proper Cheral Euchtsmal.





- 224

French and Saunders 9.30pm BBC1



Television by Gerard Gilbert

Call Red 9pm ITV (above). Just when you thought they couldn't find yet another variation on Casualty and Landon's Burning – along comes the helicopter paramedics of this new seven-part drama (5717). Cutting Edge: Car Thieves 9pm C4. On the beat with the Greater Manchester Police Stolen Vehicle Squad (3359).

The Brains Trust 11.15pm BBC2. Not a great night for originality, as this old Reithian chestnut is revived. A panel of of intellectuals field viewers' questions (558576).

Experimental drama mixing Simon Armitage's poetry, interviews with homeless people in Manchester and the story of a woman

searching for her missing brother - muddling, but nicely ambitious.

From Salford to Jericho 7.45pm R4.

Return to the Dying Rooms 9pm C4. Follow-up to the harrowing documentary about the Chinese state orphanages where abandoned baby girls were tied to their chairs or simply left to die (3064).

The X Files 10pm BBC1. The FBI paranormal investigators, having clocked up BBC2's healthiest figures in years, are nabbed by the senior channel (883828). The Larry Sanders Show 11.15pm BBC2 (above). Garry Shandling's faux-chat show returns. Serious fun (407267).

Consequences 7.20pm R4. This week, Tony Travers explores how the Conservative government ever got themselves mixed up with the poll tax, abandoned less than three years after its introduction - however soberly told, still a BBC2. Did you manage a cranberry-free Christmas? Welf done. Nevertheless, she's back; with an edition titled Soutflés and the Winter Vegetarian (6126). Under the Sun 9.30pm BBC2 (above). There's an acute shortage of wives in Singapore, and the government has opened its own dating agency to help (700855). The Big Idea 11,15pm BBC2. The Independent's Andrew Marr begins a new weekly series of discussions (429107).

On Baby Street 11pm R4. The inescapable

Jenny Eclair co-wrote and stars in a comedy

drama about three pregnant women living on

the same road - nice cast (Graham Fellows, Caroline Hook, Keith Allen), up-and-down

Della Smith's Winter Collection 8.30pm

Kensit is the guest star (10362).
Inside Story 10pm BBC1. Two-year-old ian Stewart was left brain damaged after an operation — he's in constant pain and isn't expected to make it to his teens. His parents have sacrificed both their careers in order to care for him, and now are coming round to the idea that euthanasia might be the answer (530782)

(above). Should be worth it alone for:

Dawn's impersonation of Bjork. Patsy

Clever Girls and Lost Boys 7.20pm R4. Sarah Dunant looks at the growing vogue for single-sex education, and asks whether it really does have academic benefits for all or is the dark truth that it's only good for

Sounds of the Eighties 7.30pm BBC2. To accompany Peter York's tour. First up, the likes of Duran Duran, Wham! and Adam and the Ants. Just dandy (657). Gardening from Scratch 8,30pm BBC2. Mighty useful series – and about time too. Not only calls a spade a spade but tells you what to do with it too (7218). Jo Brand through the Cakehole 10.30pm C4 (above). The comedienne and independent diarist returns, spoofing Gladiators and Reservoir Dogs (47) 299).

Agatha! 10pm R2: 20 years after Christie's death, the "Radio 2 Arts Programme" sends Claire Rayner to Harrogate (where her disappearance prompted a huge manhunt 70 years agn) to investigate the great woman's contribution to culture.

Sunday Television and Radio

BBC₁

7.05 Match of the Day – the Road to Wembley (S)

by Robert Hanks

(7910649). 8.15 Suenos – World Spanish (4787262). 8.30 Breakfast with Frost. John Major has a New Year's message (74465).

9.30 The Big Question. Mark Lawson asks it of

management guru Tom Peters (S) (3696910). 9.45 First Light (S) (813945). 10.15 See Hear! (S) (732026).

10.45 The French Experience (S) (1227823). 11.00 The 11th Hour (S) (31991).

12.00 CountryFile (S) (85295). 12.30 News (13415378). * 12.35 Enchanted Tales (S) (5639823).

1.20 Cartoon (73518755). 1.30 EastEnders. Omnibus (S) (5709668). * 2.55 Match of the Day Live - the Road to Wembley. Live coverage of Chelsea vs Newcastle United in the FA Cup third round (S) (31211823).

5.15 Black Hearts in Battersea (537668). * 5.45 News; Weather (850755). 6.05 Regional News (539823).

6.10 Songs of Praise. From Leeds Town Hall (S) (809910), * 6.45 Antiques Roadshow. Valuations from Dover. including a painting by Walter Sickert and German invasion plans for England (S) (220129). *
7.30 Pie in the Sky. An accident during a pheasant

shoot is investigated by our restauranteur-sleuth (S) (478484). * 8.20 As Time Goes By. Judi Dench and Geoffrey Palmer are both admirable actors, and Bob Larbey's script is one of the most eloquent on TV. Then why does

this sitcom fail to even tickle the corners of the mouth? Anyway, a new series (S) (881858). * 8.50 News; Weather (758736), *
9.05 The Gulf War. The war that was just made for our TV screens is remembered in a four-part series.

See Preview, p28 (241200). * 10.05 Truly, Madly, Deeply (Anthony Minghella 1991 UK). Memorably, if a tad unfairly, dispatched to Room 101 by lan Hislop (all those actorly north-London types hopscotching around the South Bank), there is still much to enjoy about ntic comedy staming

Rickman and Juliet Stevenson (S) (676823). * 11.50 FIEM Broadway Bound (Paul Bogart 1992 US). You've maybe seen Brighton Beach Memoirs or Biloxi Blues, so you'll maybe know the score as Neil Simon's autobiographical trilogy reaches its final portion, with the brothers (Corey Parker and Jonathan Silverman) well on their way to writerly success (S) (632668).

1.20 The Sky at Night. Orion (S) (2351359). * 1.40 Weather (2427175). To 1.45am.

BBC2

7.30 Children's BBC: Rupert. 7.35 The Adventures of Skippy. 8.00 Playdays. 8.20 Felix the Cat. 8.35 Jackanory. 8.50 Bitsa. 9.10 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles, 9.30 Phantom 2040, 10.00 Travel Bug, 10.25 Grange Hill, 10.50 Agent Z and the Penguin from Mars, 11.15 As Seen on TV.

11.45 Star Trek (R) (1811281). * 12.35 Fantasy Football League. Re-run laddery from last Friday, with guest managers Nick Owen and referee Clive Thomas (S) (6877281).

1.05 Singled Out. New (to this country anyway) dating game from America. Blind Date variants look like selling well in 1996 (S) (32215533). 1.30 Wildlife on Two, Semi-seasonal look at the lot of

the robin (R) (30129). * 2.00 Auntie Mame (Morton DaCosta 1958 US). Not to be confused with the dismal, so-bad-it'sgood remake with Lucille Ball, Rosalind Russell plays the unconventional relative tutoring young Roger Smith in the ways of fine living. Forrest

Tucker and Coral Browne co-star (76764262). 4.20 Ski Sunday. The men's slalom from Flachau, Austria (1570668).

4.55 Rugby Special. Highlights of Bath vs Leicester (S) (1655303).

5.55 1996 World Professional Darts Championship. Dougle Donnelly introduces live coverage of the final of the Embassy World Professional Championship from Surrey (Subsequent programmes subject to change) (\$) (97578939).

8.10 The Tourist. These days, if you want to savour the peace and solitude enjoyed by the Romantic poets and early Victorians in the Lake District, it's possible you'd have to travel to the Gobi Altai region of south-west Mongolia. This new series filmed over an entire tourist season in four continents - explores the history and impact of

mass tourism. See Preview, p28 (747754). * 9.00 The 1996 London International Boat Show. Steve Rider and Sally Taylor report (S) (7804).

10.00 Trespass (Walter Hill 1992 US). Firemen Bill Paxton and William Sadler discover a map

which suggests gold may be buried in a disused warehouse. Inevitably – this being Walter Hill – the warehouse is now occupied by a local neighbourhood drugs gang led by rapper Ice T. Avoid (S) (116026). *

11.40 House of Games (David Marnet 1987 US). Marnet's cool psychological thriller in which popular psychology writer Lindsay Crouse finds herself obsessed with the world of con artist Joe Maritegna (S) (324858). * To 1.20am.

2.00 The Learning Zone. To 5.00am.
REGIONS. Wales: 4.55pm Scrum 5. NI: 1.30pm Now
Yor're Talking. 1.55 Our Roving Reporter.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV. 6.00 The Sunday Review, 6.30 News and Sport. 7.00 The Sunday Programme (90991).

8.00 Disney Club. With Hollyoaks "stars" Paul Leyson and Julie Buckfield and singer Bitty McClean (S) (35796668). *
10.15 Link. How Irish disabled people are fighting for

equal rights (S) (7782129). 10.30 Sunday Matters, Including 11.00 Morning Worship from St John the Baptist, Trowbridge,

Wilts (\$) (85842). 12.30 The Munsters Today (\$) (6884571). 12.55 Local News (43609823). *

1.00 News, Weather (28336552). * 1.10 European Club Rugby - the Heineken Cup. Alastair Hignell presents live coverage of the final of the Heineken European Cup from the national Stadium, Cardiff. Top club sides from France, Ireland, Italy and Wales are involved, and the kick-off is at 1.30pm (77774571).

3.15 Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge. 16 of the world's top snooker players compete for charity (S) (64360991).

5.40 London Tonight (846552). *
6.00 News, Weather (182638). *
6.10 ELL Robin Hood (John Irvin 1991 US). John McGrath-scripted version of the legend, which popped into cinemas just before the Kevin Costner blockbuster, with Patrick Bergin as Robin and

Uma Thurman as the kind of Maid Marian you'd wear tassled Lincoln Green for (S) (38117002). *
8.00 A Touch of Frost. David Jason's dour copper returns, kept busy by a ruthless kidnapper (S)

10.00 Lights, Camera, Action: A Centenary of the Cinema. Michael Aspel fronts a six-part series of 100 years of the cinema, beginning with a look at startform, and talking to a host of stars old and new (S) (6045). *

11.00 News, Weather (281858). * 11.15 Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge. Snooker (S)

12.15 Between Two Brothers (Robert M Lewis 1982 US). A tale of two brothers: one whose career as an attorney has led him into the race for Congress, while the older brother struggles to keep alive their father's painting business (874752).

2.05 Cue the Music. The Band (6290663). 3.05 Hot Money (Selig Usher 1979 Can). Orson Welles rather oddly crops up in this drab Canadian heist movie. Little else to be said for it really (7564576).

4.35 Marquee Anniversary. The 25th anniversary of London's Marquee Club celebrated (S)

Channel 4

6,20 Blitz! (R) (8998533). 6.20 Blitzl (R) (8998533).
7.15 Take 5. With The Magic Roundabout, Bush Tails, Natalie, Ivor the Engine and Joggy Bear (24804).
7.45 The Magic School Bus. New American animation featuring the voice of Lify Tomlin (S) (29303).
8.15 Hong Kong Phooey (4703200).
8.30 Stunt Dawgs (9943552).
8.55 Biker Mice from Mars (S) (9035587).

9.20 The Secret World of Alex Mack (4547533).

9.50 Earthworm Jim (S) (1019736). 10.15 Saved by the Bell (1832465). * 10.40 Rocko's Modern Life (S) (4362991). 11.15 Rawhide (774262).

12.15 Mission Impossible. A hostile regime is attempting to kill millions of Americans using germ warfare (395200). *
1.15 Football Italia, Roma vs Florentina (63682397).
3.30 The Linesman, Short film about the art of the

inesman (2285007).

3.45 Fig. The Big Trees (Felix Feist 1952 US). As titles go, outside the odd Donga settlement, not one to draw the crowds. Actually, given we're

talking the 1950s here, the message is strongly environmental – as scheming logger Kirk Douglas tries to separate a colony of Quakers from a plantation of Giant Redwoods he wants to turn into coffee tables. Douglas did this one for free, in order to get out of his Warners contract. It kind of shows (293397). *

5.30 Hollyoaks. Last Monday's slice of rather wishful Chester teenagery (R) (S) (246). *
6.00 The Persuaders! Lord Brett lifts an eyebrow as he receives death threats during a car race (34945).

7.00 Time Team. Tony Robinson and his less celebrated fellow enthusiasts get their hands on some maps of a Cornish antiquarian who ended his days in a local lunatic asylum. If he wasn't completely bonkers, the maps should show the way to a 2,000-year-old Iron Age underground

chamber, Exciting stuff (S) (9216). *

8.00 INEST Avantil (Billy Wilder 1972 US). One of Wilder's later and, as such, neglected comedies stars Jack Lemmon as an uptight American who arrives on Ischia to claim his father's body, finds that he has died with his mistress and be involved with the mistress's daughter, Juliet Mills. Long and packed with detailed character acting from the likes of Clive Revill and Edward Andrews,

this is an unexpected pleasure (59036804). *

10.45 American Football: The Road to Superbowl. It's down to the last eight (S) (219465).

12.45 Bas Barsaat Ki Raat (PL Santoshi 1960 India). The path of true romance is studded with song and dance in this version of the popular Hindi story (90080717). To 3.25am.

ITV/Regions

ASSUM As London except: 12.30pm James Bond Junor (55.484), 5.25 Duty Free (7830397), 5.25 Angle News and Weather Week (389752), 12.15am Pate: The Jazz Singer (22.4601), 2.15am Hotel Babylon (6306750), 2.55am Obach (7056359), 3.20am Shift (9807514), 4.20-5.30am Film; Man from Tangler (3574408).

THE RESYMMISMIR AS LONG TEST TYPE NEW AWARD (3416007). Write: Yan Can Cook (3425755). 12.50 Yorks: Regional News (13419194). 12.55 Tyre: Regional News (13419194). 12.55 Tyre: Regional News (13609823). 3.15 Carton Time (9553281). 3.25 Muttle: She Write (4397858). 4.30 The Richard Whiteley Show (8577303). 5.45 Regional News (120026). 11.15 Films Coccort: The Return (83254532). 1.20wn Films Straterishin (33501885). 4.40-5.30am Jobfoder (93972).

As London except: 12.30pm Central Newsweek (6884571). 12.55 Central News and Weather (43609823). 5.25 Our House (780037). 5.55 Cen-tral News and Weather (389755). 2.00am Cue the Mu-st (23392). 3.00am (IV Sport Casses (44514). 3.30am Jobinder (745069). 5.20-5.30am Asian Eye (3007408).

IIIV
As Landon except: 12.25pm Chellerge of the Seas
6415007: 12.55 West Regund News 6/3609823. Water
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Cup (7777-45711: 3.15 Filter: The Amazing Captain Nemo
Cu0319911: 505 Muntle, She Water 6/772397: 555 West
Regional News (3897551: Waters News (3897551: 11.15
Prisoner: Cell Block H (842262): 12.15am Filter: The Jazz
Singer (22460)): 2.15am Hotel Batylon (63067501: 2.55am
Coath (7056359): 3.20am Shift (880751-4): 4.20-5.30am
Block Martin Technic (87744078): 4.20-5.30am Film: Man from Tanger (3574408).

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WESTCOMMEN

As Landon except: 12.30pm Westcountry Update (6884571).
12.55 Westcountry News (43609823). 13.5 Films Airport
80 - The Chromate (28694744 5.25 Getevals) (7830337).
5.55 Westcountry News (389755). 11.15 Prisoner Cell
Block H (842262). 12.15am Films The Joz Erger (22-201).
2.15am Hotel Babylon (6306750). 2.55am Coach
(7056359). 3.20am Shift (88075)-1). 4.20-5.30am Film: Man from Tanger (3574408).

94C As C4 ecopt: 7.15em Tale Five (24804): 8.55 Biler Mics from Mars (9035587): 9.20 Rumming the Halls (4556281): 9.45 Moviewatch (733755): 10.15 Hotlycals (725736): 10.45 New Gamesmaster (724007): 11.15 The Avergos (74262): 12.15pm Mission Impositive: The Carners (395200): 1.15 Round a Round (393282): 1.45 Rap (76369113): 2.10 Tocyn Tymor (3387533): 3.10 Notes (3440674): 3.30 Film: The Adventures of Huckleberry Fint (95638): 5.30 Pobol V Cum (37510533): 7.25 Dechrau Caru Dechrau (413571): 7.55 Neus (267649): 8.00 Twm (347718): 8.50 V Pot (707674): 9.50 Saith At V Sul (905378): 10.10 Och When | Laueh 95.50 Saith Ar Y Sui (905.378), 10.10 Only When I Laugh (852.705), 10.40 American Footbolk (60484129), 12.45-1.45em Riding the Storm (294040).

Radio

. Radio 1

Radio 2

日7.6-99.8時時 用0 7.00am Kevin Greening 10.00 Dave Pearce 2.00 Soul on Sunday 4.00 UK Top 40 7.00 Signs of the Times 8,00 Radio 1 Rock Show 10.00 Andy Kershaw 12.00 Mark Tonderai 4.00-6.30am Clive Warren

128-90-200b AIN 7.00am Don Maclean 9.05

7.00am Don Meclean 9.05
Michael Aspel 10.30 Hayes on
Sunday 12.00 Desmond Carrington
2.00 Benny Green 3.00 David Jacobs 4.00 Chris Stuart's Piano Parlour 4.30 Sing Something Simple
5.00 Sunday Sospbox 7.00
Nanette Newman 8.30 Sunday Half
Hour 9.00 Alan Keth 10.00 Other
Pagendos I have 12 05 Stage Matrien People's Lives 12.05 Steve Madden 3.00-6.00am Alex Lester Radio 3

6.35am Open University 7.00 Sacred and Profane. 8.55 Choice of Three. 9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning. 12.15 Music Matters. 1.00 News; From the Proms 1995. 2.25 Spirit of the Age. Christopher Page evokes the sights and sounds of the medieval land-

scape of the Isle of Ely. 3.25 A Series of Intervals. Adrian Jack relaxes to the major 2nd. 3.35 Schubert, Richard Stokes introduces settings of poetry by Schubert's triends and contemporaries, performed by Robert Holl (bassbaritone) and Andras Schiff (piano). 5.45 The Sunday Feature: The

Sleeping Beauty, Christopher Cook presents a critical history of British ballet. 6,30 Missa Pro Defunctis. The 17th-century mass written by loan Cererols in memory of those who died in the Reapers' war be-

tween Spain and Catalonia.
7.30 The Sunday Play: The Real
Don Juan, Jose Zomila's version of this classic tale in a translation by Ranjit Bolt. With Gerard Murphy and Burt Caesar. 9.15 Choir Works. Brian Wright introduces Russian music with

roots in the liturgy and life of the Middle Ages. 11.15-12.30am Record Review.

Radio 4 224與36位計 1986256 6.00am News Snefing. 6.10 Something Understood. 5.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.10 Sunday Papers.

Choice

Sir Charles Powell (left) goes In Search of the National Interest (6.30pm R4), starting with Youth Orchestra open a run of concerts From the Proms 1995 (1pm R3) with Strauss and

7.15 On Your Farm. 7.40 Sunday. 8.50 The Week's Good Cause. 8.55 Weather. 9.00 News. 9.10 Sunday Papers. 9.15 Letter from America.

11.15 Mediumwave. 11.45 Foreign Correspondence. (4/5). 12.15 Desert Island Discs. With the

playwright Christopher Hampton.
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World This Weekend.
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time. 2.30 The Classic Serial: The Barchester Chronicles. By Anthony Trollope. (2/3). 3.30 Pick of the Week. 4.15 Asia Gold.

5.00 News; Crimescapes. Leslie Forbes visits the red-light district in Arnsterdam with the ex-polica-man and crime writer Janwillem

van de Wetering. (1/5). 5.30 Poetry Please! 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Letters from Ireland. (5/6). 6.30 In Search of the National Interest. Sir Charles Powell talks to General Colin Powell about

America's future role on the international stage. (1/5). 7.00 Children's BBC Radio 4: Tales from the Perillous Realm, By JR Tolkien. With Sir Michael Hordem. 7.30 A Good Read. 8.00 LW: Surnos - World Spanish.

8.45 New Francophonie, 9.15 Short Stories in Spanish, 9.30 Writer's Weekly. 8.00 FM: The Natural History Pro-

8.30 FM: Strong Impressions. (6/6). 9.00 FM: First Person Plural. 9.30 FM: Flashpoints. Professor John Durant looks at how the theory of the Butterfly effect sparked a whole new field of inquery into chantic systems. 9.59 Weather.

10.00 News. 10.15 Medicine Now. 10.45 Not at Dorking. Simon Rae

General Colin Powell on where he sees the United States in the new world order. The European Union

explores some of the incidents and personalities that have shaped the game of cricket.

11.15 in Committee.

11.45 Seeds of Faith. (1/3).

12.00 News.

12.30 The Late Story: The Chiropodist by by Bannister. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service.

Radio 5 (93. 9世版 統)

1933, 30th Edit 6.05am Straight Up 6.30 Brian Hayes at Breakfast 9.05 Sunday with Mair 11.35 Special Assignment 12.05 Gary Lineker's Sunday Sport 6.05 Jam and the Doc 7.00 News Exb.U5 Jam and the Doc 7.00 News Ex-tra 7.35 The Acid Test 8.05 Head to Head 8.35 Asian Perspective 9.00 Dailyn Worldwide 10.05 Out This Week 10.35 Crime Desk 11.00 Night Extra 12.05 Nightcall 2.00 Up All Night 5.00-6.00am Morning Reports

11000-1019期27期 6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 Classic Romance 12.00 Celebrity Choice 1.00 Alan Mann 3.00 Masterclass. Vivaldi: Guitar Concerto. 4.00 Robert Booth 7.00 Book Browse 8.00 Classic FM Evening Concert. Purcell: Trumpet Sonata. Bach: Concerto for Two Violins. Purcell: Suite: The Indian Queen. Vivaldi: Concerto for Two Violins, Montever di: li ballo delle ingrate. 10.00 Howard's Week 12.00 André Leon

Virgin Radio [1215, 1157-155]] [1218] [115] 6.00am Janey Lee Grace 10.00 Paul Coyte 2.00 Nicky Home 6.00 Mitch Johnson 10.00 Gary Davies 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks

4.00-6.00am Mark Griffiths

World Service (1950db 196)

1.00am World News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 Red Dwarf 1.30 Any-thing Goes 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Composer of the Month 3.00 World News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Jazz for the Asking 4.00 Newsdask 4.30 Off the Shelf 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Andy Keshaw

Satellite

SKY OHE 6.00am Hour of Power (54465). 7.00 Undun (887113). 10.00 Ghoul-Lashed (41941397), 11.45 The Perfect Family (1694571). 12.00 Star Trek (92939), 1.00 The Hit Mix (74587). 2.00 The Adven-Hit Mix (74587). 2,00 The Adventures of Brisco County Junior (15674). 3,00 Star Trek: Voyager (48246). 4,00 WWF (87533). 5,00 Great Escapes (5378). 5,30 Migrity Microbin Power Rangers (4991). 6,00 The Simpsons (1804). 6,30 The Simpsons (5484). 7,00 Beverly Hills 90210 (22194). 8,00 Star Trek: Voyager (31842). 9,00 Highlander (28378). 10,00 Renegade (21465). 11,00 Seinfield (88262). 11,30 Duckman (40129). 12,00 60 Minutes (40129), 12,00 60 Minutes (62446), 1,00 She-Wolf of London (98446), 2,00-6,00am Hit Mix

Long Play (6905934). 6.00am Three Godfathers (1948) (43007), 8.00 Bundle of Joy (1956) (63026), 10,00 Revenge of the Nerds M: Nerds in Love (1994) (77620), 12,00 The Spy in the Green Hat (1965) (53649). 2.00 The Man Who Wouldn't Dis (1993) (78945). 4.00 Taking Liberty (1994) (5945). 6.00 MacStayne Winner Tales All (1994) (4173571). 7.25

Revenge of the Nerds N: Nerds in Love (1994) (48721649). 9.00 Murder One (19674), 10.00 The Pelican Brief (1993) (46140736). 12.20 The Movie Show (4183243). 12.50 Excessive Force (1993) (9354330), 2.20 Choices (1985) (5166330). 3.50-6.00am Someone She Knows (1994) (73654021). MONTE CHANGEL

6.00am Yogi Bear and the Magic Flight of the Spruce Goose (41649). 8.00 Little Nerrio; Adventures in Stumberland (1993) (63397), 9.30 Alexander the Great (1956) (631216), 12.00 You Must Be Joking (1965) (44991), 2.00 The Happy Thieves (1962) (16587). 4.00 Where Are My Children? (1994) (84138465). 5.50 The Man with the Golden Gun (1974) (80206216). 8.00 Sommersby (1993) (35668), 10.00 The Paper (1994) (953484), 11.55 Bloodstone: Subspecies II (1993) (260465), 1.25 Knightnders (1981) (315514), 3.25-6.00am

SAT MOVIES COLD 12.00pm Chitly Chitly Bang Bang (1968) (62907939). 2.20 ... And God Created Woman (1956) (381026), 4.00 David and Bathsheha (1951) (3674). 6.00 Lover Come

Starting Again (1994) (33978972).

Back (1961) (16133), 8,00 Return from the River Kwei (1988) (19668) 10.00 The Thing (from Another World) (1951) (3832/6), 11.35 The Seven Year fish (1955) (792755). 1,20-3,00am The Diany of a Chem-bermaid (1964) (213243).

UK GOLD 7.00am Give Us a Olue (8392823). 7.30 Going for Gold (9451295). 7.55 Spring and Autumn (5733755). 8.20 And Mother (\$733755). 8.20 And Mother Malks Five (\$466674). 8.50 When the Boat Comes in (4304007). 9.50 The Pinik Parither (4376303). 10.10 Dr Who and the Image of the Fendahi (85327668). 12.00 Doctor at the Top (68589).01. 12.30 What a Carry On! (7229842). 1.00 Carry on Matron (86811842). 2.40 Kenny's Comic Cutis (4577823). 3.00 The Bit (1463253). 5.20 Bergarac (2533).13). 6.20 Some Mothers On Yave Ern (1646259). 7.00 The Paul Daniels Magic Show Paul Daniels Magic Show (4022649), 8.00 What a Carry On! (2238945), 8.30 Carry on Don't Lose Your Head (81957858), 10.10 The Bob Monkhouse Show (51868129). 11.15 Special Branch (7225649). 12.20 Resily Ace of Spies (4293885). 2.00-7.00am

Shopping at Night (1351373). SKY SPORTS 7.00am Cricket (503129). 10.00 Rugby Union (67378). 12.00 FA Cup Third Round (2190262), 3.30 Cricket (90200), 5.30 FA Cup Spedal (40533), 7.30 The Big League (73303), 9.30 Ordet (10620). 11.30 Rugby Union (28552). 1.30-3.30am FA Cup Special (92601).

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Soccer Extra (9451939). 11.00 Sports Unlimited (7933129). 12.00 Golf USA (8749484), 3.00 Rugby Union (8611129). 5.00 NFL (1968571). 9.00 Golf USA (2263736), 12.00 Snowboard Tour (7616595), 12.30-1.00am World of Speed and Beauty (3281359).

7.30am Rally Raid (39571). 8.00 Eurofun (45668). 8.30 Live Alpina Sking (3157842). 9.20 Live Alpina Sking (91256303). 11.00 Alpine Sking (91256303). 11.00 Alpine Sking (34465). 11.30 Live Alpine Sking (83194). 12.30 Live Alpine Sking (76026). 1.00 Ski Jumping (64281), 2.00 Nordic Skiing (83858), 3.00 Tennis (15262), (83858), 3.00 lemns (15262), 5.00 Dancing (5397), 6.00 Sumo (33484), 7.30 Aerobics (45262), 8.30 Raily Raid (4281), 9.00 Su-percross (75200), 10.00 Tractor Pulling (58587), 11.00 Tractor Pulling (58587), 11.00 Tractor Raid (89040),

Pastimes

Chess William Hartston

ings tournament takes place brilliant refutation with today, so hurry down to the 25.Nxc6! when Black's Cinque Ports Hotel and see if the Croatian Grandmaster Bogdan Lalic can hold off the British challenge of Jonathan Speelman, Tony Miles and Stuart Conquest. or whether the Russian Alexander Khalifman will

sprint past them all. The Hastings battle has been quite level this year, with little to choose between any of the players. The games have been entertaining, none more so than Con- 10 g4 Qe7 30 Be2 Nc5 quest's conquest of Luther. 11 h4 0-0-0 31 Qb6+ Kc8 After a bizarre opening -White's 8.Rg1 and 10.g4 is superbly rustic - Luther let 14 Bg2 c6 34 Rh4 Re8 his queen wander into trouble. After 22.Bc1, Black was 16 e4 dxe4 36 Bxd3 Qf6 forced to surrender his 17 dxe4 e5 37 Rf4 Qg5 a-pawn, but hit back with 18 Nf5 Bxf5 38 Qb6+ Rb7 24...Nxf5, when 25.exf5 e4 19 gxf5 Qh4 39 Qxc6 1-0 leaves Black threatening 20 Bf3 Nf6

The last round of the Hast- Qxc3+. Conquest found a queen is lured from f6 and White emerges ahead on pawns and position. White: Stuart Conquest

Black: Thomas Luther

1 b3 d5 21 Rh1 Qg5 2 e3 Nf6 22 Bc1 Nd7 21 Rb1 Og5 3 Bb2 Bf5 23 Nc4 Qf6 4 NG Nbd7 24 Nxa5 Nxf5 5 d3 h6 25 Nxc6 bxc6 6 Nbd2 e6 26 exf5 e4 7 Qe2 Bh7 27 Qa6+ Kb8 8 Rg1 a5 28 Bf4+ Bd6 9 a4 Bb4 29 Bxd6 Qxd6 12 Nd4 Ne8 32 Rd1 Nd3+ 13 h5 Nd6 33 Kf1 Rd7 15 c3 Bc5 35 Qa6+ Kb8

Perplexity Mixed doubles:

Laid moral price upon rare pint.

That sentence conceals three words linked by a common theme. To find the answers, you must group the six words above into three pairs, then rearrange the letters within each pair. A Chambers-Larousse Desk Reference Encyclopedia will be awarded to the first correct entry opened on 18 January. Entries to: Saturday Pastimes, the Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL.

16 December competition: Answer: Merry Christmas (add numerical values of letters together for each move: so Kal = 11 + 1 + 1 = 13 = M etc. Winner: Thomas Hawtin (Totnes, Devon).

Bridge Alan Hiron

Love all; dealer South

48752

North 40 **♥8743 ◊**K76 ♣AKQ76 East West

♦J 10 9 4 ωî ♥Q 1096 ♦A 1053 QJ4 **10984** South **◆**AK63 ♥A K 5 2 0982

There was a neat point to the needed from the suit, declar- it broke 3-3. Whatever dedefence on this deal and West er came to hand with a top clarer tried, he was limited to got it absolutely right. When heart and led a low club. His eight tricks.

452

congratulated afterwards. plan, if East played low, was however, he looked puzzled. He had played the right card

for the wrong reasons. Playing five-card majors and a strong no-trump, South was reduced to the ugly-looking opening bid of 1 0. North responded 24. South rebid 2NT and North raised to 3NT. perhaps luckily missing the 4-4 heart fit.

West led the ♠J and dummy's queen won. With the side entry gone, playing clubs from the top looked a poor bet and, as only four tricks were

to duck in dummy. Then, with East on lead and the OK protected, he was home unless the clubs were 5-1. West foiled him by playing

the jack on the first club lead. As he said afterwards, he always petered with a doubleton, to help his partner! Can you see why his defence proved a killer? If dummy

ducked. West would be on lead and would be sure to try the O Q to give his side four more tricks. And it dummy won, the club suit could only be used if



The big picture A Winter's Tale Sat 12mdn't BBC2

A Winter's Tale - that's Conte d'hiver to you Francophones - is Eric Rohmer's beautiful, pellucid reworking of Shakespeare's The Winter's Tale (just a swift change of article, guv), in which French coiffeuse Charlotte Very (above) meets the love of her life (Frederic van den Driessche) on holiday, but bungles a hasty exchange of addresses. She mooches around in the wintry city, juggling unsatisfactory boyfriends and hoping that her man will return. A sensitive, witty romantic fable.

Television preview RECOMMENDED VIEWING THIS WEEKEND

by Gerard Gilbert 👺



Assignment Sat 7,15pm BBC2 Auf Wiedersehen, Pet Sat 9pm C4 Peter York's Eighties Sat 9.30pm BBC2 The Tourist Sun 8.10pm BBC2 The Gulf War Sun 9.05pm BBC1

he scent was first in the air late last year. Loon pants, platform soles and Slade were all safely in the mainstream, and punk had had its fittingly moth-to-the-flame moment of remembrance. There millennium catches us all in its headlights - the 1980s - and it's our good fortune (and probably no accident) that the whiff was first detected by the refined nostrils of Peter York, and distilled into Peter York's Eighties (Sat BBC2). Just imagine. It might have been Eve Pollard, who appears draped adoringly on one of York's bespoke shoulders in the accompanying publicity - or Emma Ridley. Why not? I'm sure light

bulbs are going on over at GMTV as we speak.
So, OK, a question. What have Alfred Sherman. The Institute of Economic Affairs, Steve Strange and The Blitz Club got in common? All were pioneers of the 1980s, according to York's thesis - the New Right and the New Romantics, whose individualist creed shaped the decade - and rescued Britain from the "grotty Seventies" (Robert Elms) of strikes and bad dress sense.

The Gulf War very much belongs to that uneasy vacuum we call the 1990s. This week marks the fifth anniversary of the opening of Operation Desert . Storm, and a whole new vocabulary of warfare: smart is only one last epoch to be disinterred before the bombs and surgical strikes; innocuous megadeath for pre-watershed viewing. The campaign is remembered in The Gelf War (Sun BBC1), a new four-part series with a self important World at War score and an impressive line-up of key players - from Colin Powell, "Stormin' Norman" Schwarzkopf and King Hussein of Jordan, to Mikhail Gorbachev, Hosni Mubarak and a ripely insane Margaret Thacher. No surprises that when "Belgrano Margaret" first heard that two Iraqi oil tankers had broken the allies' blockade, she demanded they both be sank at once. Wiser

heads prevailed. The population of Kuwait is just under one million the same number of people, as it happens, as were killed in the Hutu genocide in Rwanda in 1994. It's a small African country with no strategic importance and, despite the UN having declared a war-crimes

"Cursed be Closed Eyes" (Sat BBC2), looks at three individuals trying to make sure those responsible are brought to trial.

The Tourist (Sun BBC2) is a slow, sly documentary series looking at the history of tourism. Once. you might have been able to wander lonely as a cloud in the Lake District, but these days you'd be more likely to be run over by a lycra victim on a mountain bike. Those in search of real virgin lands lump their

rucksacks to Gobi Altai in south-west Mongolia.

Briefly back again to the 1980s, and a very different universe to the one stalked by Peter York and fellow style councillors: the second series of Auf Wiedersehen, Pet (Sat C4) starts a re-run. It's not quite as good as the first, but this was the best blend of drama and comedy outside of Coronation Street a show it regularly challenged in the ratings. Gary Holton, who played cockney womaniser Wayne. died halfway through filming - although you wouldn't know it by the way scripts and episodes were rejigged. The folk who controlled the images we received of tribunal, justice is dragging its feet. Assignment's film, the Gulf War would have been proud of that.



The big match Chelsea vs Newcastle Sun 2.55pm BBC1

The big question for Chelsea, as they aim to knock out the Premiership leaders in this third-round FA Cup match, is whether Rund Gullit will be fit. The Dutch wizard was stretchered off during Chelsea's defeat of QPR on New Year's Day, having exacerbated a sciatic nerve problem. But that didn't shut him up. A few days later he was railing about how only three Premiership players were good enough to play in Italy. One of them being Les Ferdinand (above) of Newcastle, this season's joint leading League scorer - who might be itching to put the boot in.

Saturday Television and Radio

BBC₁

7.25 News; Weather (4154032).
7.30 Children's BBC: SuperTed. 7.35 The Artbox.
Bunch. 7.50 Iznogoud. 8.05 Willy Fog. 8.30 The New Adventures of Superman (R) (S)

9.15 Live and Kicking. Dale Winton guests (S) (68045186).

12.12 Weather (6601273). 12.15 Grandstand. Introduced by Steve Rider. 12.20 Football Focus. 12.55 Racing from Haydock: 1.00 The New Year Handicap Steeple Chase. 1.10 News. 1.15 Skiing: World Cup action from Flachau, Austria, featuring the men's giant slatom. 1.25 Racing from Haydock: 1.30 the Northern Handicap Hurdle Race. 1.40 Skiing. 1.55 Racing from Haydock: 2.00 the Newton Handicap Steeple Chase. 2.10 Darts: action from the first semi-final of the Embassy World Championship. 2.55 Rugby League: live coverage of Leeds vs Wigan, the second semi-final of the Regal Trophy. 3.45

5.20 News; Weather (3721728). * 5.30 Local News, Weather (570051). 5.35 Dad's Army. An enemy aircraft crash-lands in the

Final Score (54504964).

Football Half-Times 3.55 Rugby League. 4.40

local reservoir (588419). * 6.05 Jim Davidson's Generation Game. The Royal Marines find themselves dragooned (\$1 (953186). *
7.00 Noel's House Party. Dale Winton earns a Gotcha

(S) (403051). 7.50 The National Lottery Live. £40 million up for grabs, as Cher pushes the button (S) (110273). 8.05 Casualty. The formidable Jane Lapotaire makes a guest appearance as a woman hooked on

tranquillizers since the birth of her now grown-up daughter (S) (172490). * 8.55 News and Sport; Weather (Followed by National

Lottery Update) (976186). 9.15 The Temp (Tom Holland 1993 US). After the nanny-from-hell (The Hand That Rocks the Cradle) and lodger-from-hell (Pacific Heights) comes the temporary-secretary-from-hell, in the shape of Lara Flynn Boyle, and the comparatively feeble tale of a temp killing her way to the top of a cookie firm.

Timothy Hutton is the bemused boss (471099). 10.45 Match of the Day - the Road to Wembley. Action from the third round of the FA Cup, with Plymouth Argyle vs Coventry, Tranmere vs QPR and Stoke vs Nottingham Forest (S) (2595322).

11.55 The Stand Up Show. Lee Hurst is among the comics (S) (954542).

12.35 THA The Cheap Detective (Robert Moore 1978 US). Predictable spoof - scripted by Neil Simon of all those much-loved Humphrey Bogart films of the 1940s, with Peter Falk as the eponymous detective (2342620).

1.55 Weather (2528858). To 2,00am. REGIONS. NI: 2.05 International Cross Country 5.00

BBC₂

8.20 Open University: Learning Difficulties (8493761). 8.45 Nathan the Wise (9059167). 9.10 The Right Course for You? (4678457), 9.35 Voyages of Discovery (5381761). 10.00 Nadan Nadia. New cornedy drams from Pakistan,

starring Babra Shariff (S) (63055896). 11.50 Wartime Weddings (4245167). 12.00 Circus (45186).

2.30 BIB Border Incident (Anthony Mann 1949 US). Tough, exciting and strikingly photographed thriller starring Ricardo Montalban and George Murphy as Mexican and US agents who join forces to smash a ring smuggling illegal immigrants – or "wetbacks" – onto the land of a crooked rancher (91983).

2.00 EIM Cimarron (Anthony Mann 1960 US). The second in an Anthony Mann double-bill finds his eye for wide-open spaces severely cramped by MGM's insistence that much of this otherwise sweeping tale of the Oklahoma Land Rush, and its aftermath, be filmed in the studio. Glenn Ford, Maria Schell and Anne Baxter star (66762273). 4.25 Darts. Semi-final action at the Embassy World Championship from Frimley Green, Surrey (S)

(73077032). 6.15 One Man and His Dog. The young handlers take to the field in Cumbria. (S) (758728). *

7.00 News and Sport; Weather (405693). * 7.15 Assignment. The story of three courageous individuals who risked their lives to expose the attempted annihilation of Tutsi Rwandans by the Hutu majority in 1994. See Preview, above (591780).

8.00 Bookmark. Repeat profile of the author, Rumer Godden, now 88 and living in Scotland. A somewhat turgid version of Godden's The Peacock Spring - based on her early life in India - was shown last week (R) (S) (3167). *

9.00 Knowing Me, Knowing You...with Alan Partridge. Recycled spoof chat with Steve Coogan, entertaining American singing star Gina Langland and Hot Pants, northern Europe's sexiest dance act 9.30 Peter York's Eighties: Pioneers, York kicks off with

a look at the New Romantics and the New Right. See Preview, above (53693). *

10.00 EEE Chariots of Fire (Hugh Hudson 1981 UK). HUGSON'S USCAT-WITH - Colin Welland) tale of four athletes competing in the 1924 Olympics to a Vangelis beat. With Ben Cross, Ian Charleson, and Nigel Havers (9612). *

12.00 FILE A Winter's Tale (Eric Rohmer 1992 Fr). The wonderfully named Charlotte Very plays a jeune femme hesitating on the brink of marriage to either a serious librarian or her considerate boss, while unable to forget an idyllic holiday romance that left her with a young daughter in a typical Rohmer conte. See The Big Picture, above (S) (55755).

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV. 6.00 News; Weather, 6.10 Re:Win.d. 6.40 Eat Your Words, 7.10 Barney and Friends, 7.45-8.55 Saturday Disney, 8.55 VR Troopers

(2108896). Teleganticmegavision. A new, weekly behind-the-scenes peek at the world of television and film – yet 9.25 Teleganticmes another opportunity for both mediums to plug nemselves (4622438).

10.25 ft's Not Just Saturday. Noisy new magazine with which to bray your kiddies senseless while you enjoy a quiet breakfast. The usual mixture of violent games and celebs with something to sell (S) (4342032).

11.30 The Chart Show (R) (S) (83964). 12.30 Flantastic. Cookery for idiots, presented by one Matthew Marsden (S) (60983).

1.00 News, Weather (73623631). * 1.05 Local News, Weather (73622902). * 1.10 Movies, Games and Videos (32328051). 1.40 Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge. 16 of the world's top snooker players compete for charity (S) (95158902).

3.50 Airwolf (R) (2220371). 4.45 News; Sport; Weather (3748877). * 5.05 London Tonight, Sport (3380341). * 5,20 New Baywatch (S) (9873070). *

6.15 Gladiators: The Ashes. No, the Birmingham NEC hasn't burned down taking all the Glads and Uirika with it. This is a contest between the British and Australian versions of each other(\$) (785419). 7.15 Blind Date (Including Lottery Result) (S)

(707631). * 8.15 Raise the Roof. A dinky millhouse in Brittany could be someone's (S) (681-139). *

8.45 News; National Lottery Update; Weather 9.00 Jack Dee's Saturday Night. Hale and Pace and kd lang guest (S) (426728). *

9.45 Air America (Roger Spottiswoode 1990 US). US dirty tricks in Laos during the Vietnam War (heroin smuggled out in exchange for the help of local drug barons), played for teenage laughs by gung-ho Mel Gibson and his greenhorn buddie Robert Downey Junior (S) (425070). *

11.45 Funny Business. Comedy as the new rock 'n' roll. part 457 (736588). 12.15 Pyjama Party. Pre-empting C4's Girlie Show,

tormer The Word presenter Kade Puckfick and I gang of gals host a slumber party (S) (2480026). 1.40 STEEL La Bamba (Luis Valdez 1987 US). Highly entertaining biopic of Mexican/American crooner Ritchie Valens (an electric Lou Diamond Phillips) who died in the same plane as Buddy Holly

(978194). 3.30 God's Gift. Tacky late-night variant on Blind Date (R) (5850378).

4,20 Shift (R) (5214674). 5.10 Coach (R) (S) (3915262). 5.30 News (57026). To 6.00am.

Channel 4

6.05 Sesame Street (R) (2698693). 7.05 Ulysses 31 (R) (3766693). 7.30 Super Mario Brothers (R) (53780). 8.00 Trans World Sport (70631). 9.00 The Morning Line (S) (72902).

10.00 Blitz! (59964). 11.00 Gazetta Football Italia (79728). 12.00 Neighbours. Cutting Edge documentary about

travellers and their on-going battle with Avon Council (R) (47032). 1.00 The Late Late Show (8471099). 1.45 Channel 4 Racing from Sandown Park. Including the postponed King George VI Tripleprint Chase from Boxing Day (2.30pm). John Francome introduces the 1.55 Baring Securities Tolworth Hurdle; 2.30 King George VI Tripleprint Chase; 3.00 Anthony Mildmay, Peter Cazalet Memorial Handicap Chase; and the 3.35 Harrier Novices'

H'cap Hurdle (95144709). 4.00 The Magic of Bing Crosby, Louis Armstrong, Resemany Clooney and the recently late Dean Martin exercise their memories in recycled tribute. Folicized by News Summary and Weather (R) (8586525)

5.05 Brookside Omnibus (S) (2397506). * 6.30 Right to Reply. C4's Beastly Xmas throws up some argument, and there's a look at the future of interactive TV (761). *

7.00 Fill Operation Pacific (George Waggner 1951 US). Submarins commander John Wayne beats the Jack and wins back the hand of ex-wife Patricia Neal, in drum-beating actioner (61709).

9.00 Auf Wiedersehen Pet. The second series of Dick

Clement and lan La Frenzis's magnificent comedy crama from the mid-1980s, about a group of British prickles in Germany, See Preview, above /1-29322/. 1

10.05 Father Ted. Another chance to see the supremely goofy series about house-sharing Irish priests, a recent British Comedy Award-winner (R) (S) (289983), *

10.35 Tin Men (Barry Levinson 1987 US). Levinson's fond and funny comedy, set in 1960s Baltimore, about feuding aluminium salesme Richard Dreyfuss and Danny DeVito (60418186). 12.40 Late Licence: Doomed Megalopolis. Manga mayham (6153129). *

memories in an episode directed by William Friedkin (S) (11397).

2.00 Big Girl's Blouse. Comedy sketches from three of Australia's top women comedians: Magda Szupanski (recently seen in the film Babe), Jane Turner (from Prisoner Cell Block H) and Gina Riley /29397411. 2.25 FVEI Profiles of Michael Douglas and designer

Donna Karen (S.) (9612113). 2.55 Beat Specials. (ggy Pop (R) (S) (7614991). To

ITV/Regions

ANSIA As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (60983). 1.05 Angia News and Weather (73622902). 1.10 A World of Wonder (32328051). (73622902). 1.10 A Word of Words (32328031). 5.05 Anglia News, Sport and Weather (3380341). 1.45am American Gladiators (2222674). 2.40am Film: The Lawyer (17339303). 4.50am Music Box Profile (90376484). 5.00-5.30am Wanted Dead or Alive (35945).

THE TES/VORISHIRE
As Landon except 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (60983). 1.05 Regional News, Weether (73522902). 1.10 se@Guest DSV (1019390). 2.05 Film: The Thomas Crown Affair (285148). 5.05 Regional News, Weather (3704051). 5.10 Type: Full Time (4762983). Yorks: Someline (4762983). 1.40pm Coach (2223303). 2.35am War of the Worlds (7811129). 3.30pm The Crime Hour (1930262). 4.25pm Cue the Music (5131397). 5.20-5.30pm Profile (3030736).

As London except: 12.30pm Hearltand (60983). 1.05 Central News and Weather (73622902). 3.50 Thunder in Paradise (2220371). 5.05 Central News and Weather (3764051). 5.10 Cartoon Time (4762983). 4.20am Johinder (2795649). 5.20-5.30am Asian Eye (3030736).

As Landon except: 12.30pm California Off Best (60983). 1.05 Regional News, Weather (73622902). 1.10 Hawarian Ironman Trathlon 1995 (1019450). 2.05 Mones, Games and Videos (49726099). 2.35 Cartoon Time (7845693). 2.45 Thunder in Paradise (254964). 3.45 Airwolf (250148). 5.05 Regional News, Weather (3380341). 1.45am American Gladiators (222267.1). 2.40am Films The Lawyer (17339303). 5.00-5.30am Wanted Dead or Alive (35945).

As London except: 12.30pm Movies. Games and Videos (60983). 1.05 Meridian News and Weather (73622902). 1.10 The Big Byte (32328051). 5.05

Werdian News and Weather (3380341), 1.45am American Gladiators (2222674), 2.40am Film: The Lawyer (17339303), 4.50am Music Box Profile (90376484), 5.00-5.30am Freescreen (35945). As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (50983). 1.05 Westcountry News (73622902). 1.10 Film: Dreams of Gold: The Met Fisher Story

(29176186). 2.55 Airwolf (56471983). 5.05 Westcountry News (3380341). 1.45am American Gladiators (2222674). 2.40am Film: The Lawyer 5.00-5.30am Wanted Dead or Alive (35945).

As C4 except: 11.00am The Persuaders (79728). 12.00 Living Memory (30254). 12.30pm Eto Squad (68525). 1.45 Channel 4 Racing (95144709). 4.00 Equinox (8586525), 6.30 Hollyoaks (761), 7.00 News (490761), 7.15 A 55 (705273), 8.15 Hel Straeon (986821), B.45 Liwyfan (336362), 9.15 Car Wash Love (957612), 9.30 Stanley Baxter is Back (5098148), 12.40am Doomed Megalopofis: The Final Challenge (6153129), Z.00-2.25am Big Girl's Blouse (2999741).

> THE EASY OPTION

FOR HARDWOOD

FLOORS.

Radio

Radio 1

(97.6-99 8MHz FAD) 7.00am Kevin Greening 10.00 Dave Pearce 12.30 Danny Baker 2.30 Jo Whiley 5.00 John Peel 7.00 Danny Rampling 9.00 Radio 1 Rap Show 12.00 Essential Mix 2.00 Annie Nightingale's Chill Out Zone 4.00-7.00am Lynn Parsons Radio 2

(38-90 2MH; FUI)

6.00am Mo Dutta 8.05 Brian Matthew 10.00 Judi Spiers 12.00 Hayes on Saturday 1.30 Change at Oglethorpe 2.00 Martin Keiner 4.00 Nick Barraciough 5.00 Mary Black in Concert 6.00 Reading Music 7.00 Cornedy Classics 7.30 60 Glonous Swinging Years! 9.30 David Jacobs 10.00 Sheridan Moriey 12.05 Charles Nove 4.00-7.00am Mo Dutta Radio 3

(90 2-92 4MHz FM)

7.00am Record Review. 9.00 Building a Library. 10.15 Record Release. Scarlatti: Sonatas: in D minor; in G; in G: in B minor. Dussek: Fantasia and Fugue in F minor. Chopin: Piano Concerto No 2 in F minor. 11.15 Reissues.Beethoven: Violin

Sonata in G, Op 30 No 3.

12.00 Private Passions, The founder of the Samaritans, the Rev Dr Chad Varah, in conver-sation with Michael Berkeley. 1.00 News; Layer by Layer, Ar-chaeologist Andrew Jones sits through the evidence at Dartington Hall, Devon, 1.25 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish Symphony Orches.

tra/Martyn Brapbins, Tubin: Double Bass Concerto. Shostakovich: Symphony No 5. 2.35 Jean-Yves Thibaudet (p)ano). Debussy: Preludes: Three Etudes. Liszt: Jeux d'eau a la villa d'este. Ballade No 2 in B minor. Wagner, arr Liszt: Liebestod. Liszt: Mephisto Waltz No 1. Schubert, arr

Liszt: Erikanıg. 4.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC National Orchestra of Wates/George Hurst, Wagner: Prelude to Act 1. Brahms: Symptony No 2 in D. 5.00 Jazz Record Requests. 5.45 Music Matters.

6.30 Live from the Met. Puccini: La Roheme, Barbara Frittoli (so-(tenor), Chorus and Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera, New York/Carlo Rozzi. Acts 1 and 2.

Choice

Simon Heffer pursues the reasons why 16 years of cutbacks and privatisation haven't done anything to reduce Government expenditure to less than 40 percent of GDP, in Agenda (11am R4). Meanwhile, Coronets (2.30pm R4).

(7.30-7.55 The James Naughtie Interview. With conductor and music director for the Welsh National Opera, Carlo Rizzi, i Act 3. (8.25-8.45 The Metropolitan Opera Quiz.) Act 4. 9.25 Best Words. Michael Rosen

presents a reassessment of South African poet Roy Campbell. 9.55 Early Music Summer Festi vais. The Spanish ensemble La Romanesca perform music from the time of Velazouez. 10.40 A Series of Intervals. Adn-an Jack relishes the minor 2nd. 10.45 Impressions, Brian Morton talks to pianist David Gordon about his work in Jazz and ear-ly music, and introduces a ses-

sion by his trio with Paul Cavaciuti (drums) and Danish bass player Ole Rasmussen. 12.30 The Hi-de-Ho Man. Alyr Shipton talks to musicians Mill Hinton and Danny Barker about some of the many soloists who worked in Cab Calloway's band. (3/5). 1.00-3.00am Russian Onthodox Christmas Vigil. From All Saints Russian Onthodox

Cathedral, London. Radio 4 92.4-94.5Mile PM, 198Mile LM 6.00am News Brie 6.10 Farming Today. 6.50 Prayer for the Day. 6.55 Weather. 7.00 Today. 8.58 Weather

9.00 (LW) Test Match Special. Coverage of the Fifth Test between South Africa and England. 9.00 (FM) News. 9.05 (FM) Sport on 4. 9.30 (FM) Sport on 4. 9.30 (FM) News; Loose Ends. 11.00 (FM) News; Agenda. See 11.30 (FM) From Our Own Corre-

spondent. 12_00 (FM) Money Box.

12.25 (FM) Just a Minute. 12.55 (FM) Weather.

Harry Enfield (left) chases after Alec Guinness, playing multiple roles in a new version of Kind Hearts and

1.00 (FM) NewSuestions? John Humphrys' guests are Robin Cook MP; Lady Howe, Chair of the Broadcasting Standards Council; Sir Charles Powell, former adviser to Margaret Thatcher; and Judge Stephen Turnim, lately Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons.

1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Any Answers?
2.00 (LW) Test Match Special.
2.30 (FM) Saturday Playhouse Kinc Hearts and Coronets. With Harry Enfield taking on Alec Gulnress's tamous turn as the members of the D'Ascoyne tamily. See Choice. 4.00 News; Strong Impressions. Str. Roy Strong visits Derry. (6/5). 4.30 Science Now. 5.00 Consequences. Peter Jay

5.00 Consequences. Feel Jay looks at what went wrong with the Channel Tunnel. (1/4). 5.40 Queenan Country. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.25 Week Ending. 6.50 Ad Lib. 7.20 Kaleldoscope Feature. Brian

7.20 Kaleidoscope reature. Brian Sibley looks at the notion of the weekday-weelend cycle.
7.50 Saturday Night Theatre: Conan Doyle's Strangest Case. Detective drama by Tony Mulholland which tells the true stony of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's obsession with a miscarnage of instead with the bear lefting. justice. With Peter Jeffrey 20 Music in Mind. 9.50 Ten to Ten. 9.59 Weather.

9.59 Weather.
10.00 News.
10.15 Startza on Stage. Simon Armitage introduces Ritar Dove, the American Poet Laureate from 1993 to 1995, reading at the Swarsee Year of Literature. (2/8).
10.45 Philosophy Figures. Dominik Diamond turns to Profescer. John Cottingham. Or Sarah. sor John Cottingham, Dr Sarah Patterson Professor Jonathan Ree and actor Nabil Shaban ing the ideas of Rank

Descartes. (2/4).

11.00 Personal Records, Jeremy Nicholas visits the home of actor Robert Hardy in search of musical and personal revelations. 11.30 A Journey. In Edith Whar-ton's tale, dramatised by Stanley Richardson, a young New Yorker has to make a difficult decision when her alling hus-band dies during their train journey home. With Karen White and Jim Nutter. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Story: It Could

Be You by JX Brennan. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00am As World Service. Radio 5 (1933, 909 like 1990) 6.05 am Dirty Tackle 6.30 Brian Hayes at Breakfast 9.05 Weekend with Kershaw and Whittaker 11.05 Top Gear 11.35 Crime Desk 12.00 Midday Edition 12.15 Sportscall 1.05 Sport on Five 6.06 Sbx-O-Six 7.35 Straight Up 8.05 The Box 8.35 Dallyn on Saturday 10.05 The Treatme

11.00 Night Extra 12.05 After Hours 2.00 Up All Night 5.00 6.05am Morning Reports Classic FM (100 0-161.9MHz PMD 6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 Classic Countdown 12,00 Classic Sc Cultillown 12.00 classic Gardening Forum 1.00 Alan Mann 3.00 The Saturday Alterna-tive 6.00 Classic America 7.00 The World Opera Season, Verdi: Rigoletto. Roberto Alagna, Renato Bruson, Chorus and Orchestra of La Scrale Millan/Riccartin Musi 10.00 Classic Quiz 12.00 André Leon 4.00 Classic Countdown 5.00-6.00am Michael Fanstone

Virgin Radio (1215, 1197-126Neb MW 105.8Neb PM 6.00am Janey Lee Grace 10.00 Richard Skinner 2.00 Mark For-rest 6.00 Mitch Johnson 10.00 Robin Banks 2.00-6.00am

World Service (1986/2 (5)) 1.00am World News 1.10 Press 1,00am World News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 The Traditions of the Prophet 1.30 From Our Own Cor-respondent 1.50 White On 2.00 Newsday 2.30 The Ed Stewart Show 3.00 World News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Fourth Es-tate 3.45 Science View 3.50 Waveguide 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Seeing Stars 4.45 The World in Your Ear 5.00 Newsday 5.30 In

Satellite

7.00am Undun (695952). 10.00 Ghoul-Lashed (41047525). 11.45 Groul-Lastreo (4/1047-323). 11.45 The Perfect Family (1707099). 12.00 WWF (86998). 1.00 The Hit Mix (16186). 2.00 Teech (6475). 2.30 Family Ties (9902). 3.00 One West Walkid (13525). 4.00 kurg Fu, the

Legand Continues (92032). 5.00 The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles (3612), 6.00 WWF (96322), 7.00 Robocop (37693). 8.00 VR.5 (46341). 9.00 Cops (21544). 9.30 The Serial Killers (36457). 10.00 Saturday Night, Sunday Morning (51761). 10.30 Revelations (77709). 11.00 The Movie Show (93761), 11.30 Forever Knight (13457), 12,30 WKRP in Cuncinnati (50649), 1,00 Saturday Night Live (43295). 2.00-6.00am Hrt

Mix Long Play (6938262).

SKY MOVIES 6.00am Madame X (1937) (58506). 8.00 Dodge City (1939) (78525). 10.00 Hot Shots! Part Deux (1993) (99419), 12.00 Samurai Cowboy (1993) (68148). 2.00 A Child's Cry for Help (1994) (848631), 3,50 Annie (1981) (25150254), 6.00 Widow's Peak (1994), Cornedy-drama ow's Peak (1994). Corneby-drama staming Mia Farrow and Joan Plowright (30780). 8.00 Hot Shots! Part Deux (1993). Cornedly sequel staming Charlle Sheen and Lloyd Bridges (42525). 10.00 The Crow (1994). Thriller staming Brandon Lee and Emile Hudson (410235). 11.586790. Hollbungt Organs (1992): 5586790. Hollywood Dreams (1992) (586790). 1.15 The Crow (1994) (246587). 2.55 Johnny Be Good (1988) (3864755). 4.25-6.00am A Child's

Cry for Help (1994) (902113). MOVE CHAPPEL 6.00am The Geisha Boy (1958) (561-18), 8.00 Gallavants (1988) (76157), 10.00 Scooby-Doo Meets (76167), 10.00 Scooby-Doo Meels the Boo Brothers (80761), 12.00 September Affair (19501 (59490), 2.00 Boeing Boeing (1965) (58186), 4.00 Batman, Mask of the Phantasm (1993) (6185), 6.00 My Family Treasure (1993), Children's cornecty starring Dee Wallace Stone (38322), 8.00 Scam (1992). Thriller starring Christopher Walleen and Lorraine Bracco (40167), 10.00 Deep Red (1994), Thriller starring Michael Biehn and Joanna Pagula (125-14), 11.30 Dark Angel – The Ascent (1994), Horror starring Angela Featherstone (524065), 1.05 Preclous Victims (1993) (151465), 2.40 One

Woman's Courage (1993) (522484). 4.15-6.00am Batman: Mask of the Phantasm (1993) (198823). SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00pm Knights of the Round Table (1953) (5506). 6.00 Separate Tables

tims (1993) (151465), 2,40 One

(1958). Romanno drame with Burt Lancaster, Rita Hayworth and David Niven (12322). 8.00 A Fish Called Wanda (1988). Cornety starring John Cleese and Jamie Lee Curtis (24167). 10.00 Saturday Night Fever (1977). Classic disco movie starting John Tra-volta and Karen Lynn Gomey (72797964) 12.05 Youngblood (1986) (862113), 2.00-4.20am One-eved Jacks (1961) (23667620).

HE COLD 7.00am Give Us a Clue (8498051). 7.30 Going for Gold (8417186). 8.00 Warship (3517032). 9.00 Secret Army (2885254). 10.00 Neighbours Omnibus (7301490). 12.00 Too Marry Crooks (8784457). 1.40 Doctor at the Top (4517761). 2.15 EastEnders Omnibus (85367815). 5.00 What a Carry On! (2832761). 5.30 Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin (7265438). 6.10 French Fields (6538964). 6,40 It Ain't Half Hot, (8538964), 6,40 if Airt Hair Hot, Murr (5167952), 7,10 The Last Song (8267490), 7,40 Bread (9759506), 8,15 The Bill Originals (88517457), 9,20 Film: Carry On Dick (44996693), 11,00 No Man's (32862958), 2.15-7.00am Shopping

SKY SPORTS 7.00am Skiff Salling (47167). 7.30 Racing News (59902). 8.00 Interna-tional Cricket (3313525). 3.30 Sports Saturday (12099). 5.30 Finitial Mundial (3506). 6.00 FA Cup Special (8) 438), 8.00 International Cricket (86983), 10.00 World Masters Crick et (65490). 11.00 Hold the Back Page (56815). 12.00 Rugby Union Update (39755). 2.00 Futbol Mundl-al (36842). 2.30-3.30am Hold the

Back Page (98939). SICT SPORTS 2 7.00am Soccer AM (9557167).
11.00 WWF (7965457), 12.00 Golf USA (1552790), 2.00 Rugby Union (9820542), 4.30 Watersports World (2640273), 5.30 NFI, (2157983).
9.00 Golf USA (8968524), 12.00 Futbol Mundial (7649823), 12.30-1.00am Powerboat World (3387587).

7.30am Raily Raid (44070). 8.00 Basketball (50167). 8.30 Live Alpine Skung (75380). 10.00 Live Alpine Skling (62326), 11,30 Live Alnine Skling (62326), 11.30 Live Alpine Skling (5721322), 12.15 Live Ski Jumping (90602693), 2.30 Alpine Skling (7186), 3.00 Tennis (827612), 6.00 Alpine Skling (99544), 7.00 Ottmad (91815), 8.00 Live Supercross (16896), 9.30 Pally Paul (61761), 10.00 Adventure (90186), 11.00 Sklimping (90186). 11.00 Ski Jumping (38761). 12.30 Rahy Raki (81533).

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3 **383** 8 ●

saturday story

Can Internet users be protected from electronic porn and extremist propaganda? And should they be? asks Paul Vallely

Sex on the Net: a very modern moralitytale

It was an icon for our pecu- is to gas as many Jews as pos- arms control regulations. this week poured large quanti-ties of German beer down the sewer in front of the Goethe Institute in San Francisco, They were protesting against the actions of anti-pornography police in Bavaria who had forced the closure of more than 200 sexually explicit computer discussion groups and picture databases on the Internet. Across the world, four million subscribers to the network found their access denied.

As a story it had everything. Its subject was sex and high technology. Its dynamic was protest and direct action. Its subtext was the consumerism that is the driving force of the contemporary age. And at its philosophical core was the battle between liberalism and authoritarianism which, as Sir Isaiah Berlin has put it, is one of the cardinal political issues of modern times.

Admission to the news-groups was blocked by Compu-Serve, one of the world's leading providers of access to the Internet, after the German police notified the company that the groups were being investigated as part of a crack-down on child pornography. The censored information includes discussion groups on homosexuality and Aids, gay rights advocates said. Computer nerds and civil rights activists alike were outraged.

The Internet is in the news for more reasons than that, however. This week a former computer consultant in the Midlands was accorded the dubious distinction of being the first individual to be jailed in Britain for downloading porn from the network. Porn is fast becoming what the Internet is best known for. A couple of months ago students at Oxford had access to the Net blocked after staff discovered more than 4.000 connections were a recent survey by the University of Central Lancashire democracy to another. Officlaimed that one in 10 secondary school boys - one in three in all-male schools - had viewed hard-core pornography on their computer screens.

But it is not just about porn. The Net has all manner of anti-social uses. Racist and anti-semitic propaganda computer games such as - even though its export is Achtung Nazi, in which the aim otherwise banned under US

sible - are being posted on the worldwide computer link. Last year in the United States the FBI had to launch an investigation after the posting of Internet death threats against the actress Jodie Foster.

Last summer the first case in Britain of a libel on the Internet was settled out of court when Laurence Godfrey accepted undisclosed damages from another nuclear physicist. Philip Hallam-Baker, over remarks made in 1993 on Usenet, an electronic conference with 16 million users. And Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, sent a stiff letter to the vice-chancellor of Leeds University after one of its students used a faculty com-

A recent survey claimed that one in 10 secondary school boys had viewed hardcore porn on a computer

puter to make defamatory allegations about him.

Governments do not like the Internet for all kinds of reasons. This week the Chinese government warned that it was about to take "effective measures" against the "harmful materials" which are seeping into the nation's two million computers from corrupt bourgeois cyberspace. What those effective measures might be remains unclear as Chinese leaders have recently insisted that information technology is the key to the country's economic development.

What one government an instrument of freedom and cials at the US National Security Agency have suggested that Internet encryption technology - a sophisticated method of encoding information - be deliberately exported to Chinese dissidents to help them in their

fight against their government

So how big a threat to social order is this massive free flow of information? It is easy to be alarmist: "the evil side of the Internet - the tool of pornographers, pimps, drug-sellers and burglars," said one tabloid recently, cataloguing hardcore porn, tracts on white supremacy, instructions on lock-picking, the formula for crack cocaine, details of women for sale in Thailand and the Philippines, and instructions on making letter bombs, car bombs and Molo-

tov cocktails, Most of what is available on the Internet can be found in the public library or local bookshop. But it is indisputable that standards on the Net have been dictated by those countries with the highest rather than the lowest levels of tolerance to the outrageous - which means America, where almost anything goes under the constitutional imperative of utterly

untrammelled free speech. The question of how to controi the Internet falls prey to the same kind of category mistake made by the stranger who visited Oxford and said: "Well, I've seen all the colleges but where is the university?" This amorphous network of computer links was originally designed as a communications system which would survive a nuclear attack and is now proving resistant to attacks of a more abstract nature.

Lawyers in the States where thinking is most advanced on this wired frontier - have yet to come to grips with when an online service should be treated as a common carrier (like a telephone company that cannot be held responsible for what people say on it) and when it should be treated as a publisher (which can be). The British legal system has no answer. The Lord Chancellor's office expects to publish in bill extending libel to computer networks. But it will provide a defence for Internet service providers as long as they are not primarily responsible for a defamatory statement. The thorny issues of copyright and obscenity are

The modern Western world view sees a divide between an individual's private life and their public behaviour. I may

not to be covered.

say and do what I like so long as it does not interfere with others or undermine the system which makes this tolerance possible. On the other hand, people, especially the vulnerable, do often need protection from other people; hence children, the mentally infirm and

those without the information

they need to make an informed choice may require guidance. What has made everything more difficult is that many of the key players at the forefront of information technology sit by historical accident - at the extreme libertarian end of this spectrum of political philosoindividuals in the computer world are to be found on the west coast of America and a disproportionately large numher of them are the survivors of the drug culture of the Sixties and Seventies. The Well, the computer network that set the freewheeling tone for the Internet, was founded by the man who invented that hippie bible, the Whole Earth Cata-

from a similar cultural ethos. Their contest with the police and drug enforcement bodies over those decades bred an instinctively anti-authoritarian attitude.

As a result the Net is awash with articles, books and software - in theory someone's copyrighted intellectual property - all distributed for free. A friend of the inventor of the uncrackable code system known as Public Key Encryption took a laptop and modem as soon as the American National Security Agency placed it under the arms control regulations and went out to he blasted the software across every Internet bulletin board he knew. And when the American government tried to launch its own system of almost invulnerable encryption known pour mathematical superglue into the government's keyhole" rendering conversations encrypted with Clipper comlogue. Many colleagues are pletely incomprehensible.

pus's supply of some of the juicier discussions and pictures carried over the Internet. Only when a greater crime against university etiquette occurs is anything censored. A student in Michigan was arrested after a violent pornographic fantasy he had written about a named woman student was read on the Net by an American in Moscow

In Pittsburgh a student group

who complained to the author's The authoritarian tendency Californian who posted porn legally on the Net in San Jose was busted when some law enforcement officer surfing the Net in Memphis downloaded it and charged him as Clipper, one libertarian nerd successfully – with publishing spent hours working out how to it in Tennessee where such material was definitely not legal. After decades of seeing the West Coast imposing its

crazed values upon the rest of

called the Clitoral Hoods was The fundamentalist right is formed to protest against the behind much of the backlash. decision by Carnegie Mellon Donna Rice, who ruined the University to cut off the campresidential chances of Gary Hart when she draped herself all over him on board his motor yacht Monkey Business, is now a conservative lobbyist campaigning against smut on the Internet. She is the communications director of Enough is Enough, a pressure group which fights cyberporn, motivated, she says, by "the three fs faith, family and friends". The Christian right have managed to insert a clause in a recent Telecommunications indecent material over the

found a way to strike back.

ity" as the criterion. They will have their work cut out. Historically, censorship has always relied on controlling the distribution of a physical product - a book or a pamphlet. But information travels around the Internet in quantithe nation, the Midwest had ties too great for anyone, or them.

computer networks, with

"indecency" rather than the

narrower standard of "obscen-

any computer, to monitor. The amount of data passing across the network is said to be equivalent to thousands of copies of the Encyclopaedia Britannica every day. Once released anywhere on the Net. it tends to seep everywhere. Controlling the production of illicit materials will be much more difficult than simply regulating their distribution. There will always be some places happy to act as bases for posting disreputable material areas which will be to comput-

ing what Liberia is to shipping

and Switzerland to banking.

More than that, the techday CompuServe software experts were working on programmes to cut Germany off from porn but allow the rest of the world access to the 200 disputed newsgroups. It would, they said, be ready in a month. You may be sure that somewhere some libertarian extremist (or under-stimulated anorak) is already responding to the challenge of outwitting



Jo Brand's week

Enforced New Year revelry has driven me out of London for the past five years to the relative peace of a country village with some friends. Even then if you visit a pub, you do tend to feel you are encroaching on someone else's celebration. We all trooped to a country pub on New Year's Eventodiscover all the women seated along the side of the room, watching all the men in the middle of the room. It was like a school disco for grown-ups. At one end of the room stood a Hammond organ accompanied by its owner, a Norfolk version of Englebert Humperdink. One of the side-lined women was knitting. which put me in mind of the French revolution and I feared heads might roll (or at the very least someone might get punched). We legged it fairly sharpish. I know it would be quite difficult to cover up the pub massacre of a group of thirty-something Londoners but you can never be too careful.

There is a great game called the water game that improves with the amount of alcohol imbibed. Sit some people in a circle. Choose one of these people and give them a small amount of water in a glass. The chosen one introduces a category (eg British birds) and selects one item secretly from that category (eg thrush). All the people in the room then name a British bird and the game continues until someone names the bird selected by the chosen one. That person then has the water thrown in their face. Yes, it's very childish but a really good laugh. However, age even catches up with you in this game, as one of our party remarked, "If we're going to play the water game, I'm going to change because this top has to be dry-cleaned." Pass the Complan, Grandma.

Emma Nicholson defected to the Lib Dems because she cannot bear the thought that her beloved Tory party has drifted so far from its principles of care, courage and compassion. I must have blinked and missed that era. Conversely, old Emma must have had her eves shut since 1979, missing all those images of unemployed miners, desperate single mothers, teenagers sleeping on the streets and poverty-stricken families which the rest of us have been regaled

I know I tend to harp on about men hijacking traditional female problems. but they're at it again. Yes girls, they've got post-natal depression now. Must be all that hard work going to the pub with their mates or the distress caused by having a wife with a fat tummy. I mustn't mock, because this isn't your common-or-garden depression but the full Monty, taking in paranoia, delusions and suicidal thoughts. The researcher who investigated the problem recommends time off work for a man after the birth of a baby (no chance of that with this government, matey). It is actually a very short time since post-natal depression has been recognised in women, and it doesn't look like it will be long before it is eclipsed by male needs. As usual, the testicles have it.

I sometimes wonder why so much money is spent on research only to come up with answers that some bloke in the butchers could have told you. This seems to have happened with closed-circuit television. As a weapon against crime it is a bit of a damp squib. CCTV seems to have shifted crime to areas outside the reach of its cameras. Well, knock me down with a feather, missus. Even a plank could have predicted that.

Nurses are set to replace doctors in a trial which is designed to ease the burden of GPs out of hours. They will man (or woman) all-night tele-

phones and assess problems before hey are referred on. About time too. I think lots of nurses have been doing this job for years anyway. Doctors argue that the reason they get paid so much more is because ulti-mately they have to take the rap. But look at the way they take the rap. By closing ranks and keeping their gobs shut. (I don't mean all of you, just most of you.) Perhaps if we give nurses more responsibility and more money, people will stop thinking that all they do all day is run after doctors shouting, "I love you, I want to marry

I was somewhat surprised to see Peter Stringfellow pop up on one of those programmes where those two women from Birds of a Feather face



In the club: 'Birds of a Feather'



In the club: Peter keeps up the tone

some challenge or other. Over Christmas they worked with Fergie (the duckess, not the football manager) to arrange a charity dinner at which Mr Stringfellow promised several thousand quid to charity if Linda and Pauline would show up at his club. It has to be said that Pauline, like myself, is not skinny, and Mr Stringfellow has banned fat women from his club because he thinks they lower the tone. Perhaps he waives the rules for celebs. Goodo, must pop down and sit on a few antique chairs and break them.

I very rarely read the scummy tabloids, but in deepest Norfolk there isn't much else available. Thus the Sport entered our household this week and what a revolting rag from the sewer it is. It appeared, in one article, to be having a very good chuckle about an Italian stripper who had suffocated inside a cake at a stag night, to the point of making a joke about how she had "pasta way". Dead women. What a laugh, ch?



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ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000/0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435/0171-345 2435

A nation sings: Luck be a lady tonight

Having a ticket for tonight's National Lot-tery has become almost irresistible. To miss out is to be worthy but boring -the only wallflower at a party. Deep down, everyone knows that afterwards they will feel deflated, let down, perhaps even disappointed with themselves. Yet that has not prevented mass

This week, those who fulminate against the lottery have been vanquished, at least temporarily, by a wave of fascination with tonight's draw. A few even admit their own hypocrisy. Many disagree with huge pay-outs, hate the fat cats at Camelot and worry about gambling addiction. But with a £40m jackpot at stake, they, too, have been down at the newsagents picking their numbers.

What has happened? In part we all seem to have been swept up by the hysteria of today's event. The lottery is the main topic of conversation. Once television was the great cultural unifier: on any evening you could watch a programme and next day everyone would be discussing it. But the multiplication of channels has changed all that just at a time when the fragmentation of society makes more important the creation of common culture. Today, the one activity almost everyone seems to engage in - and we are all able to talk about - is the lottery. No one wants to be left out. A £1 bet secures a chance to discuss the national obsession: getting very, very rich without doing a tap of work.

But there is more to the phenomenon than this. The lottery dream always had widespread appeal across all classes. Most working-class people have never had much of a problem with hoping for and speculating about a vast windfall that would transform their lives. And the upper classes are not trou-bled by the notion of living on huge sums of unearned income.

The real nut that the lottery had not cracked until this weekend was a prudish section of the middle classes publicly, at least, appalled at the thought of people suddenly, without merit or hard work, getting their hands on massive sums of money. Acquiring riches purely by luck goes against all their principles. It disturbs the work ethic and a well-defined pecking order. To this retentive, uptight, stuffy mentality, the wild card of the lottery spells social chaos.

The sanctimonious voice of this group has been heard repeatedly this week predicting misery for those who might win a huge sum.

A senior Anglican churchman warned that winning had "created an enormous lot of problems" for some people. The message seemed to be that hot polloi should leave being millionated to the second second to be that hot polloi should leave being millionated to the second second lionaires to those already expert in that field. The rich man in his castle, the poor man at his

Yet, despite all this hectoring, the will to resist the lottery has weakened, even among the most puritanical. In the spruce, enamelled baths of London's Georgian and Victorian terraced houses, the occupants have started dreaming, amid the carbolic soap, of what they would do if luck happened to burden them with great riches. Imagine, they could buy that



house in Italy, say goodbye to that awful boss and move to a less Pooterish residence in the capital. Everyone has their price. And £40m seems to be the figure at which few can resist a flutter.

This "descent" of the well-off into popular culture recalls an occasion when Elizabeth Taylor attended a dinner with Princess Margaret. The bejewelled actress duly flaunted her huge Krupp diamond ring, a gift from Richard Burton. "That is the most vulgar thing I have ever seen," sneered Her Royal Highness. "Would you like to try it on?" came Ms Taylor's reply. And moments later, with the Princess entranced, "Mmm ... it's not so vulgar now, is

So, we are all becoming dreamers, fantasists, hoping for wealth that the vast majority will never acquire. Is that so bad? The moralists would have us believe that this is a symptom would have us believe that this is a symptom of an unethical society, of greed and lust for money. But many people who hope to win a fortune have the most altruistic plans for its disposal. They would share it with their families, perhaps a few friends, and certainly use it to help the needy. Most people would love to make the world a better place, if only they had the money to do so. had the money to do so.

There are, of course, deeply depressing aspects of the lottery culture. The television soap opera *Brookside* has chronicled the danger of addition in the absence of Bookside. gers of addiction in the character of Rosie Banks, who wins a lottery prize, only to gamble it away again. A woman who was once bub-bling with fun turns to stealing and lies to her

husband to hide her losses. There are plenty

husband to hide her losses. There are plenty of people who have been dragged into similarly obsessive behaviour.

Participation in the lottery is often not a pleasant experience. People may approach it with cynicism, knowing the dreadful odds. But once that licket is clutched in that sugar, hand once that ticket is clutched in that sweaty hand, they feel sure they will win. Losing is a great disappointment, however irrationally so. The child that believed in Santa Claus begets the lottery optimist.

And even if dreaming of unworked-for riches is no longer sinful, it is a disturbing comment on the level of general disillusionment with other means of advancement. The belief that merit will be rewarded, that society is mobile, is regarded more as myth today than, mobile, is regarded more is myth today than, say, a decade ago. Politicians offer their recipes for success, freeing up markets and training revolutions. But one suspects that few people have much faith in them.

The lotter is the valued ream in town. It has

The lottery is the only dream in town. It has, for some people, replaced politics as the most hopeful source of change. In the absence of a hopeful source of change. In the absence of a general feelgood factor, it offers a short-lived hope, one that lasts perhaps only a few days, only to be cruelly dashed on a Saturday night. Parodoxically, at a time when economic uncertainty is rife, many people are placing their hope in luck to improve their lives.

In short, it is good to dream and no bad thing that more people have this weekend shared in a little fantasy. But the lottery culture remains a sobering reflection upon the

ture remains a sobering reflection upon the realities of 1996.

- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

The Tories need a 'volte-face' on Europe

From Mr Hugh Dykes, MP Sir: If the Conservative Party is ever to reverse its unpopularity in the polls, in addition to waiting for the feel-good factor to arrive, it will also have to begin to act effectively on the main issue that divides its parliamentary party, Europe, Above all the Government must, at last, stand up bravely and speak the truth on a single European

This is the most momentous decision any country can make. Since 1990, we have taken part in all of the steps regarding monetary union, culminating in the compelling report of central bank governors, including our own British head of the Bank of England. In fact, participating in a European single currency is one of the best economic opportunities this country has been offered since the Second World War.

The arguments for having one currency for all member nations are numerous and logical. It would allow all EC citizens to know exactly how much things cost, instead of getting caught between changing

Homing in on

From Ms.Ann McGregor

Sir: I was sorry to read (30

December) a small piece about

the recent cold weather written

by Will Bennett headed "In

Russia only the dogs and the

drunks are in peril. Homeless-

ness is a growing and alarming

problem in Russia, where peo-

ple freeze to death by the dozen

each week and are swept out of

the gutters as part of the weekly

cleansing of the cities. It is also

on the increase, due to the

decline in wages and loss of job

security - if you lose your job

and your house, in Russia you

also lose your civil rights, welfare

rights, your work permit, your

right to be rehoused and even

the right to reside in your home

town. The best you can hope for

is to be given a two-year stretch

If I had lost everything I

would be grateful indeed for a

bottle of vodka to warm my

insides in temperatures way

in jail for vagrancy.

below zero!

1 January

Yours faithfully,

ANN McGREGOR

Stromness, Orkney

From Mr Dave Foy

Lottery threat

Sir: Companies can insure

against the adverse effects of

the death or incapacity of key

market appeared - the insur-

ance of companies against the effects of successful National

Lottery syndicates? Even with

a normal weekly jackpot, a company of say, 50 employees.

could be seriously weakened by

the sudden retirément of a 10

employee syndicate, each wav-ing a £900,000 cheque and two

fingers.
The success of the lottery

may even affect the future of

industrial relations: increased

wage settlements in return for

no-lottery agreements or

extended notice periods in

cases of mass, lottery-financed

resignations. Yours faithfully,

St Helens, Lancashire

DAVE FOY

2 January

the vodka

exchange rates and suffering rip-offs (such as higher car prices in the UK). Travellers from the UK would be better off, because each time they change money now, they lose much of it in large fees. And creating a single currency would greatly reduce the waste and inefficiency caused by retaining separate currencies. In other words, it would be like using a universal credit card devoid of the usual

As to the supposed loss of sovereignty involved, why is it that the other countries - even Denmark - wish to join? We need to remember that unlike the US, the EU will not be one, single country. No one has sugtheir intensely proud national sovereignty? Far from it.

Monetary union undermines only the façade of self-rule - it really gives a factual say in the management of the unified currency as a full shareholder of the EU central bank. France prefers this solution to the current situation in which we are

Please, please,

Sir: In his letter of 30 Decem-

ber, Ken Wright, Assistant

Managing Director of Royal

Mail, assures first and second

deliveries of mail to their cus-

tomers. Unfortunately, this ser-

vice is not extended to us, as the

Royal Mail ceased to deliver to

this address on 4 January 1991,

claiming their vans would be

This is not true, as an assort-

The farm is two miles from

ment of vehicles, from cattle

trucks to mini cars, drive over it.

Freedom for sale

Sir. And so the capitalist tri-

umph reaches its inevitable

conclusion. Dr Mohammed al-

show the world that even free-

dom of speech is for sale if the

Makes you proud to be British, does it not?

hid is high enough.

ANDREW PALAZZO

For the record

From Mr Peter Hitchens

January). How flattering.

Sir: I suppose I should thank

you for describing me as editor

of the Daily Express (letter,

Richard Addis, who actually

is the editor, may not feel quite

London, E1

so grateful.

Yours faithfully.

PETER HITCHENS

Not the Editor

Daily Express

London, SE1

4 January

Masari is to be deported as we

From Mr Andrew Palazzo

damaged on our road.

the centre of Bath.

helscombe Farm

Yours faithfully,

FORD

Mr Postman

From Miss P. Ford

forced to accept decisions over which we can only exert a weak influence. What wise words from Jean

François Ponçet, the former French foreign minister. The British government must at last get away from acute party strife on Europe. A large majority of MPs from all parties favour European Monetary Union. Any far-sighted national leader must acknowledge that fact. It may mean trade-offs with the Labour Party and the Liberal Democrats, but that too could be in the true national interest. Why not, for example, postpone British Rail privatisation to get Labour

support on EMU?
If you explain Europe propgested this for decades. Would erly, you will always get sup-the French ever wish to give up port from the public. Meanile, time is running out for necessary now in the Tory

> Yours faithfully. HUGH DYKES MP for Harrow East (Con) House of Commons London, SW1

'Exchange' rates

for stamp firm

From Mr Gruham Warwick

Sir: I write following my con-

versation with your reporter

Chris Blackhurst and your arti-

cle published on Boxing Day

about the stamp trade and my

company, Warwick Estates

Limited in the Isle of Man

("Stamps stuck with offshore discount", 26 December). I feel

Mr Blackhurst may have gained

the wrong impression, which I

Royal Mail stamps, we are not exploiting an offshore discount.

True, some country's postal administrations do give dis-

counts to their overseas agents.

This is normally in the form of

a commission on sales. We are

not agents for any country's

post office, and during my 35

years of trading, I have never

been given a discount by any

postal authority. The reason we are able to offer our UK cus-

tomers a 10 per cent discount

on currently valid British

postage stamps is because my

company operates as an international "exchange" for

British and worldwide stamps.

We offer to buy issues of any

major country from over-

stocked dealers around the

stamps of the dealer's own

country which he can sell as dis-

count postage. Mr Blackhurst has perhaps

gained the impression that the stamps we recently offered at a

10 per cent discount below face

were the 1995 Christmas issues.

In fact, we were offering

Christmas stamps from previ-

ous years. These, of course are

still perfectly valid for postage

as are all GB stamps since dec-inalisation in 1971.

Warwick Estates Limited

Yours faithfully,

Director

Douglas

Isle of Man

GRAHAM WARWICK

world or we will exchange for

When we sell cheap-rate

would like to correct.

A man's home or his prison? | Making of a

From Dr Gary Slapper Sir: "The house of everyone", it was proclaimed in a case in 1604, "is to him as his castle and fortress". This cherished credo is now open to widespread doubt, and whether a householder who injures or kills an intruder is convicted of a crime ("When have a go means death", 4 January) is highly unpredictable in the context of current law and practice.

The law on self-defence has remained essentially the same for decades. The reason why its uncertainties are now increasingly exposed to public scrutiny is that it is being relied upon more frequently by people trying to defend themselves and their property. One piece of Home Office research has shown that a patrolling police officer in London would only the vital change of stance so be likely to come within 100 yards of a burglary in progress once every eight years, and even then he would not necessarily know that the crime was

taking place. Rather than simply focus our attentions on prosecutorial policy, the current debate about have-a-go-heroes should address the crucial social and economic problems of epidemic property crime and a crumbling policing system. Yours faithfully, GARY SLAPPER

Law School Staffordshire University Stoke-on-Trent 5 January

From Chief Insp D. Scougal
Sir: I was saddened by the cover
of Section Two (4 January) which had a Neighbourhood Watch sign juxtaposed with a handgun and a slogan "How far would you go?". Neighbourhood Watch is about looking after your property and that of your neighbours, taking sensible crime prevention action and reporting suspicious per-sons to the police. It has noth-

ing to do with vigilante actions. violence or weapons. Here in the Northumbria Police area, robust pro-active policing, good intelligence and partnership with councils, housing officers, social services. other agencies and our com-munities in Neighbourhood Watches have helped achieve a reduction in crime for the fourth year in succession. Yours faithfully,

D. A. Y. SCOUGAL Chief Inspector Washington Area Command Washington, Tyne & Wear 4 January

From Ms Susan Wood Sir: It would be reassuring if civil liberties organisation such as Liberty, quoted in Mary Braid's article of 4 January. championed my civil liberty to enjoy a home free from the threat of burglary and the right to walk unmolested. Yours sincerely. SUSAN WOOD Woodford Halse. Northamptonshire

world city

From Mr Chris Farrow Sir. As the former London Docklands director and presently the chief executive of Merseyside Development Corporation (MDC) - erstwhile owners of the Albert Dock in Liverpool - most of Paul Barker's points in his article "London calling: help!". January) seem to me to be wide

of the mark. Much of MDC's investment is actually devoted to mainstream industrial development. Only 2,000 of the 15,000 new jobs we have generated in our area, are tourism and leisurerelated. Liverpool and Merseyside's revival is due to its strong mixture of commercial, industrial and leisure sectors.

I have no doubt that Southwark's National Lottery win of a new Tate Gallery at Bankside will produce the same positive outputs that the Albert Dock's Tate Gallery in Liverpool produced. Nevertheless, we should not lose sight of the fact that Henry Tate was able to endow this great institution with its seedcorn not from a lottery win but from the proceeds of his enterprise and industry trading and retining sugar from Liverpool. In order to buy these lottery tickets, most people will have to continue making things to make money. My advice is that London should actually pay more attention to the lessons successfully learned by Britain's many hard-pressed northern cities which have not been as well supported by Government or the lottery as London. Reinvent industries and skills - don't throw them away. Yours faithfully. CHRIS FARROW Chief Executive Merseyside Development Corporation Liverpool 4 January

From Mr George Atkinson Sir: Paul Barker lists good theatres, good cinemas, art galleries, restaurants, parks, shops, as "trump cards" in the making of a "world city". He should add public and specialist libraries of world standing - such as the Library of Congress, the new Paris Bibliothèque nationale and the eventually completed British Library at St Pancras.

But no world city has the range and quality of specialist libraries that London has: the City of London Business Library, the British Architectural Library in Portland Place and its drawings collection in Portman Square, the library and civil engineering archives of the Institution of Civil Engincers, and the many other libraries of professional institutions, also the unique Lon-don Library in St James Square. For business and scholarship, good libraries make a world city as much as good restaurants and good golf-courses.

Yours faithfully.

St Albans, Hertfordshire

Tory manifesto

Sir. In your edition of 3 January, you have a front-page headline: Tory left to launch own manifesto"

Serves him right. Yours faithfully, P. TOMLIN Godalming, Surrey 3 January

DAVID AARONOVITCH Sordi affair

How chastening it must have been this week for Emma Nicholson to contemplate the political advancement of Home Office minister Anne Widde-combe. One left the party portfolioless, the other represented her government incessantly on radio and television.

The contrasts are complete. Emma exudes caring from every pore. In the 19th century an elegant (though restrained) tributing alms. Anne, who seems to possess all the spiritual qualities of a Torquemada. would have set up a soapbox in the village square to bid us remember that God had a purpose in creating poverty. and that we tampered with it at

our peril. Today's Emma wears discreet suits. Nothing is showy. Anne, on the other hand, seems to buy all her clothes in job lots at a theatrical costumier. On Wednesday's Newsnight she was garbed in a jacket of the McWiddecombe tartan - a combination of scarlet lines, with purple and green background - nicely set off by a rakishly loose leather tie. By Thursday she had donned an alarming black-and-white striped effort, besplattered with jewellery and slicked-down, jetblack coiffeur. She looked like nothing so much as Henry VIII's jousting tent, as dis-played at the Tower.

Yet there is something that Emma and Anne share - they both care about Arabs. Emma has done sterling work to try and save the Marsh Arabs from Saddam Hussein. Anne adores the no less proud and exotic traditions of the Saudi (or "Sordi" as she idiosyncratically pronounces it) royal family. And she wishes to save them the distressing and time-consuming business of negotiating lucrative contracts with countries other than Britain.

Arabism is, of course, an old Tory trait. For many Conservative men over the years, Arabs have seemed very attractive. For a start they weren't Jews. And the knights of the desert understood about deference and defence, calling chaps Carruthers Pasha and putting chaps

in charge of their armies. Their hospitality was legendary. After finishing your sheep's eyes it was considered bad manners to refuse a boy for the night. For those educated at British publie schools, inedible food washed down with puderasty was home from home.

This relationship worked well for Britain. It has meant a bonanza for our finest entreshe would have dressed up in preneurs, jobs for our workers and a chicken in all our pots. bonnet and spent Sundays dis-tributing alms. Anne, who difference in emphasis between us and Arab regimes over matters like public beheadings. bribery and human rights.

> So when the Sordis objected to the dissident refugee. Mr al-Masari, being allowed to use Willesden as a base to bring down their royal family, there was a dilemma. We couldn't deport him to certain death in Riyadh, and we couldn't keep him for fear of the chickens leaping out of the pots. Would anyone take him? John Major. Anne Widdecombe and Maicolm Rifkind hit the phones. Many of our best pals said no thanks, they had quite enough dissidents of their own, and that actually an arms deal or bridge contract in Sordi would be good. Had the PM tried Cuba?

> One hundred and fiftieth on the list was the tiny island of Dominica. Yes, they d take him - in return for a large backhander. This was a brilliant stroke. The Sordis would be pleased, we would be rich. the Dominicans (who do not trade with the Sordis - or anyone else, really) could stop growing bananas, and even Mr al-Masari would eventually be reconciled to swapping Willesden for Bermuda shorts in the Caribbean.

Having come this far, Ms Widdecombe, why stop? You have admitted the triumph of self-interest over fair play - why wait upon the exigencies of exile and banishment? Could we not arrange (in return for preferential treatment over trade) to ship dissidents directly from other nations to small islands in the sun! Cut out the middle man. True, Emma wouldn't like it. But you don't have to worry about that

Detail from a 'Piper window'

Piper's windows: a joint effort

From Ms June Osborne Sir: Much as I welcome lan Mackinnon's article on the lovely Nativity window at Iffley "Spotlight falls on forgotten Nativity", 1 January), I do think that credit should be given where it is due.

Many people do not realise that what are loosely termed the "John Piper windows", though designed by Piper, were not in fact made by him. Piper created the full-size cartoon. usually in gouache with collage, but after that he had to rely on very skilled artist-craftsmen to interpret his ideas in the alto-

Photograph: John Lawrence gether different medium of glass. This is no mechanical process, but one that requires

infinite subtlety.

All the earlier windows designed by Piper were realised by Patrick Reyntiens; the later ones either by Joseph Nuttgens, or more often, by David Wasley of High Wycombe. It was Wasley who made, and created the sur-

round for, the Nativity window. The significance of John Piper in the field of stained glass is immense; and this cannot be diminished by acknowledging the artistry of his collaborators. Yours faithfully. JUNE OSBORNE Charlbury, Oxfordshire

From Mr P. Tomlin

QUOTE UNQUOTE

think anyone with commonsense knows that to win £33m in one go can have terrible effects. It can totally destroy lives and bring misery - The Rt Rev Nigel McCulloch, Anglican Bishop of Wakefield, on the double rollover Lottery jackpoi

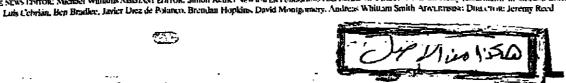
The Government has grown rather used to bishops dismissing this, that and the other as "obscene" - George Walden. Tory MP Of course, I do arouse primeval instincts, but most men can. I just happen to be able to do it to several thousand people - Mick Jagger The most under-rated thing in the world is a good hot bath with bubbles - Burt Reynolds, actor

As you get older, your skin seems to become too big for the rest of your hody and you look as though you need a good ironing -

The Liberal Democrats will not give one breath of life, beyond what is absolutely necessary, to this Government - Paddy Ashdown We are now down to 25 breeding dukes. At this rate we shall soon need our own rare breed society - the Duke of Buccleuch There are all sorts of kiss-and-tell things people could reveal after living with someone, but in my circle it is just not done -Angus Deavton, television personality

29 December 5 January Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk) and include a daytime telephone number. rs may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

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comment

PROFILE: Jackie Stewart

The formula for sporting success

He is no stranger to the chequered flag but can he run an F1 team? By Neil Lyndon

John Young Stewart has rarely used the name he was given when he was born in Milton, Dumbartonshire on 11 June 1939, son of Robert Paul Stewart and Jean Clark Young. He has chosen to be known to the public as Jackie – a perky, boyish, sporty name that embodies innocence and harmlessness. In the motoring industry and in motor racing, he is always referred to - fraternally, knowingly and with a wink over his sharpness in business – as "JYS", a Bondish style of naming that hints at secret motives and hidden identities.

"You never know what JYS is really thinking or what he is up to," is a line that was frequently spoken about him by those who would like to be in the know, even before this week's announcement that he is to launch a full-scale Formula 1 racing team for the 1997 season. Led by JYS, Stewart Grand Prix will emerge from Paul Stewart Racing, the team that Jackie's son Paul has been running in junior formulas since 1968.

Wily, resourceful, mentally focused, physically absternious and fit, JYS has always possessed and nurtured the strengths that go with worldly success. But nothing he has ever achieved will compare with the complexity and difficulty of the task he has now set himself. Winning the drivers' World Championship three times (1969, 1971 and 1973) and placing his name with the greats of Grand Prix racing may seem like simple work compared with creating a team capable of winning the constructors World

Championship.
That must be his target from the moment his new cars first appear in races. Nothing less will do for a man who has been accustomed to winning championships all his adult life (beyond motor racing, he has also won national championships for clay-pigeon shooting and was reserve for the two-man team for the 1960 Olympics). Nothing less will satisfy the appetites of the giant Ford corporation, which has

pledged exclusive supply of its racing engines to Stewart's new team.
"It is a formidable undertaking he has given himself," says Ken Tyrrell, his former employer when Stewart was winning races and championships in Ford-powered Tyrrells. The two men have remained close friends.

remained close friends; Tyrrell was shooting with Stewart two weeks ago when JYS told him that he was about to enter F1. "I had been telling him he ought to get into F1 for two years so it was no surprise when it came.

"He is very astute. He has estab-lished himself with what will undouhtedly be a good engine. The biggest obstacle he faces is that he is doing something he has never done before and he's got to get it all right very quickly. He's got to sign the right drivers, the best designers and technicians, attract top-line sponsors and produce a competitive car from the start."

Tyrrell says he "only knows what I read in the newspapers" about the amount of money Stewart will have to find to fund this venture, "but \$40m to \$45m a year sounds about right for a top four team. It's not as much as Ferrari will spend;

probably not as much as Williams;

but about the same as Benetton

JYS has never made any secret

of his respectful fondness for

money ("I would say Jackie per-

sonifies the legend of the careful

Scot: for him the emotional issues

in racing were never allowed to

says John Surtees, himself World

Champion in 1964 and Stewart's

employer in 1966.) But even for

one who has certainly amassed a

come before matters of money.

and McLaren."



A new departure: Stewart's wiliness and energy will be tested in sport's toughest arena F1 Pictures

personal fortune in millions, the prospect of managing a five-year budget amounting to a quarter of a billion dollars must be as daunt-

ing as it may be inviting.

Ford has been the key to JYS's

fortunes for 30 years. When Jim Clark was killed in 1968, Stewart inherited more than the fervour for

With Jackie there's only ever one way to go. It had to be Formula 1'

> inspired Ford's Grand Prix involvement - had financed for Colin Chapman and Ken Tyrrell. Capable and calculating, Stewart was an exceptionally efficient points accumulator as a driver rather than being an exhibitor of passion or flair. He would have been a model for Alain Prost who. with ambitions of his own for team

ownership, will be carefully watch-

fomented. He also dropped straight

into the driving seat for the Ford

engines that Walter Hayes - who

ing the progress of Stewart Grand Prix. JYS was in F1 for only eight years (1966-1973), winning 27 Grand Prix, and he terminated his career with irreversible finality the moment he had achieved his ambition of winning a third title.

For most of the next 20 years, until his son Paul entered racing,

JYS made a career out of being Jackie, Lavishly retained by Ford as a consultant and representative, he also opened a clay-pigeon shooting centre at Gleneagles Hotel and became a resident presence on the A-list of celebrities for charity events, befriending royals at dinners and golf tournaments. His entry into racing at the end of the Eighties broadly coincided with his own decline as a fashionable and high-fee earning name. His entry into F1 follows after some years of success for Paul Stewart Racing in F3 and F3000, but immediately after the team had a blank year in 1995. "His choice might have been 'Up or Out'," says a motor racing veteran who knows him well. "With Jackie, there's only ever one way to go. It had to be up to F1."

In John Surtees' mind "there's no reason why anybody can't go out

there and make a good show in F1 so long as they've got the money and the people right". Surtees and Tyrrell agree that the greatest interest in coming months will be to see who JYS will poach as his design-ers and drivers. "Nobody any good is available: they're all under contract," says Tyrrell. "But contracts get broken in F1 where the name of the game is money."

Money and power and will and talent have already been supplied in abundance to Stewart Grand Prix. Ford has said its five-year deal with JYS is "a far more integrated operation" than any they have previously entered and that the two organisations will work to integrate chassis development, aeromamics and electronics.

Fifty-six is an advanced age at which to be taking on a demanding new departure in any career. To be entering team ownership in Formula 1 – which has a fair claim to be the most ruthlessly competitive and taxing sporting endeavour on earth - at such an age may be asking too much even of the energies and will of the pixie-like JYS. He was saying this week that he still feels like a 15-year-old. He may not be saying that in two years.

You don't have to be famous to be stalked

You could suffer like Madonna or Princess Anne. says Jean Ritchie

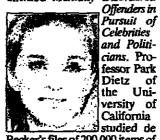
to be excused from appearing to give evidence against a man accused of stalking her, they were not just trying to protect her from losing a lucrative day's work. There was a real point ~ stalkers thrive on seeing their victims, on knowing they have impinged on their victims' lives. For the quarry of a determined stalker, there is no hiding place.

For famous victims such as Madonna and the Princess Royal, the risks are obvious. Showbiz stars need attention, and they need fans. The Princess Royal eschews per-sonal publicity, but the Queen recognises that the monarchy can't distance itself from the flag-waving faithful if it is to survive. A star like Madonna receives 4,000 fan letters a month, and as many as 10 per cent will be "inappropriate", according to Gavin de Becker, the richest Hollywood security

adviser.

Much of the stars' post is deranged: items sent to Hollywood celebrities include a coyote's head, dog's teeth, a bedpan, syringe of blood, half-eaten chocolate bar, and photographs of corpses with the celebrity's face pasted over the head.

The US government comentitled Mentally Disordered



Becker's files of 200,000 items of mail, and analysed the behaviour patterns of a violent stalker. Anyone who sends mail from different areas is potentially very dangerous - if they are travelling in a random fashion, they are deeply disturbed. Mark Chapman, John Lennon's assassin, and John Hinckley, whose obsession with Jodie Foster led to his attempt on Ronald Reagan's life, both zigzagged across the States in the days before

their attacks. Hollywood security advisers like de Becker used the report to set up elaborate protection. often stalking the stalkers to protect the stars. One known stalker sat in the Hollywood

When Madonna's lawyers argued this week for her out realising the seats on either side of him were occupied by de Becker's men.

When film star Michael J Fox received 5,000 letters from one fan, de Becker tracked her

ingly accutìdy, bad a and bad no success

ful relationship with a man. In her room, among photos and arti-cles about Fox, police found a butcher's knife.

British stars are beginning to have the same kinds of problems as their Hollywood counterparts. Television presenters like Carol Barnes, Zeinab Badawi. Kirsty Wark, Ulrika Jonsson, Michaela Strachan and Gloria Hunniford have all been targets, as have Michael Crawford, Ben Elton, Martin Shaw, Lady Helen Taylor, Helena Bonham Carter, Kate O'Mara, Nyree Dawn Porter, Diana Rigg, Julia Sawalha, George Harrison, Rod

Stewart and Sting.
But in Britain, only about 5 per cent of stalking has a celebrity prey. "Ordinary" victims cannot afford private security, and have little protection in law. Civil injunctions are costly and ineffective. The recent Criminal Justice Bill allowed police to arrest anyone for "intent to harass" another person. But "intent" is a vague concept yet to be defined in court. It is not a crime to park outside someone's house or to send them 20 letters a day - unless the letters are threatening, pornographic or libellous.

In America, many states have anti-stalking laws with heavy sentences recognising infringement of the victims' rights.

Many stalkers are obviously in need of psychiatric help, and prison is the wrong p them. But the needs of their victims should be paramount.

Britain must follow America's example and bring in specific anti-stalking laws. Police and the courts must understand how serious the "nuisance" of being shadowed by a stalker can be.

The writer is the author of Stalkers (Harper Collins £5.99)

A City crusader who lost the battle

Can the Stock Exchange survive the sacking of its chief executive? Jeremy Warner thinks not

Boardroom coups and sackings always make a good story, particularly when they involve an institution so resonant of public school and Establishment as the London Stock Exchange crushing an upstart gram-mar-school boy underfoot. The unceremonious sacking of Michael Lawrence as Stock Exchange chief executive may hold a deeper significance.

For a start, he is the second chief executive to be fired in less than three years; that normally indicates deep and unresolved crisis. Second, he may have been ejected because he had the arrogance and vision to embark on painful, but necessary reform. On the face of it, his story appears a classic of its type - the brave reformer and modemiser silenced and sent to the gallows by powerful vested interest.

With the pirate thrown overboard, where does the Stock Exchange go from here? Mr Lawrence fears it will become stuck in a bygone age with its business progressively eroded by more free-thinking foreign competitors. And who on earth would take on a job that two incumbents have admitted involves uniting such widely differing interests

that it is pretty much impossible? The official line is that Mr Lawrence had to go because he lost the confi-dence of his members. As far as it goes, this is undoubtedly true. By the end, Mr Lawrence was almost universally despised by the membership; his style and reforms had succeeded in alienating large and small firms alike. Mr Lawrence was a crusader, what was required was a diplomat. Politically, he was a complete innocent, his abrasive, often tactless approach inappropriate to an organisation that has always been more akin to a club than the husiness he appeared intent on making it.

Mr Lawrence was a chief executive with attitude - bolshy and determined. A background in accounting out and rubbished by him. No doubt and life assurance combined with a we had given Mr Lawrence good boyish addiction to sports cars, aeroplanes and sailing boats. If there were problem - to refuse to explain what he



Old boy interests at the Stock Exchange have dashed all chances of reform

toes to be trodden on, no matter. His view was that the Stock Exchange needed to be brought into the late 20th century and he was the man to do it.

Implement and then explain is a management style common enough in business, but in a club funded largely by its members failure to consult is a cardinal sin. Mr Lawrence denies it, but that's what members accuse him of. It doesn't matter how right you are. An inability to carry the shareholders, in this case the membership, is a management failing as serious as any. Some say a bunker-like mentality had developed by the end. This newspaper had direct experience of it. He thought us hostile and therefore refused all

was trying to do - is typical of the man. If Mr Lawrence was politically mept, however, it is also true that he was engaged in a process of root and branch reform - some of it against the interests of the big battalions of the membership, who unwisely, he lam-basted publicly. His ultimate downfall was plotted by a small cabal of powerful market-making firms, some of the biggest names in the City, NatWest, BZW and SBC Warburg among them. The coup de gras for Mr Lawrence was two recent initiatives Exchange's search for a new role in a

rapidly changing world.

The Stock Exchange is a broad church comprising many different interests and factions. Getting all parties to agree on anything has always required Herculean effort. Most member firms are as fiercely competitive with each tried to turn it from club into business future for stock trading in London.

other as rivals are in any business. Some of the more powerful firms have long wondered whether there is any purpose in the Stock Exchange at all in today's deregulated electronic markets, other than as a professional body with policing, rule-making and promotional functions. To have a single organisation also control key information and trading systems might seem archaic and even monopolistic.

In any case, the Stock Exchange's record in establishing adequate information technology systems is not a which go to the heart of the Stock good one. So mishandled and costly Exchange's search for a new role in a were its attempts to reconcile the differing interests of the City into a single automated share settlement system that eventually the task was assumed by the Bank of England.

In his search for a new purpose for the Stock Exchange, Mr Lawrence

 a business that would not only compete with members in some of what it does but would also cost them money. Mr Lawrence wanted an organisation independent of its members, possibly with its own share quote, that would sell utility type financial services to the City. The big battalions of the Stock Exchange thought this anathema.

When he suggested that the Exchange should boost revenues by setting up in interdealer broking, a service already provided by members, pent up anger burst into the open. But it was his decision to push ahead with Continental-style trading systems that took the lid off events.

The current Stock Exchange system is "quote-driven", which means the big league market-making firms determine buy and sell prices for shares. The system in use over most of the Continent is "order-driven" - investors determine the prices at which they buy

The new system would not necessarily damage the profitability of the big firms, but it will involve a costly change of technology, the ultimate demise of the old way of doing things and probably a great many job losses. Mr Lawrence argued that it was, nonetheless, the way of the future. Given that it is cheaper for investors, he is probably right. Without it, London could lose its pre-eminent role in international share-trading. The trouble with an order-driven system, as the little European bourses have already shown, is that anyone with a good computer can do it. It certainly does not require the Stock Exchange.

The Stock Exchange insists it is going to push ahead with introduction of limited order-driven trading, regardless of Mr Lawrence's departure. Such reform may be too little, too late, however. One big firm is saying privately it has had enough and may soon quit the Exchange altogether. Fragmentation is all too likely to be the

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CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Stock Exchange drama: Market-makers' role in removal becomes clearer as theories emerge on real reason behind chief executive's sacking 10 crucial

MPs call for inquiry into dismissal of Lawrence

SIMON PINCOMBE and DIANE COYLE

Politicians from all the main parties yesterday called for an urgent inquiry into the Stock Exchange's dismissal of Michael Lawrence, who was ousted on

The call came as the smoke began to clear and a clearer picture emerged of the role the City's powerful market-makers took in removing Mr Lawrence, whom they saw as a threat to their very existence.

Malcolm Bruce, the Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman, said: "The move clearly gives the impression of vested interests resisting change when change is necessary." Mr Bruce added that the Stock Exchange board should not be free to take decisions that could be of huge importance to the City and the economy without being ac-countable to Parliament.

He found cross-party support among other committee memhers. Barry Legg, Conserva-tive MP for Milton Keynes SW, said: "When an organisation loses two chief executives, it suggests something is wrong with the organisation, not the individuals. Personality differences

can usually be reconciled." Clive Betts, a Labour member, said: "I want to be assured that we do not have people in charge of the Stock Exchange who are resistant to changes that are important for its future and the future of the City." He agreed that there seemed to be ity vested interests trying to block essential reforms.

In the City it emerged that Mr Lawrence was sacked because he was costing practitioners too much money. While the bro-

kers and big investment banks were not prepared to comment publicly on his sudden departure, privately they admitted that his relentless programme of change was threatening their profitability.

Mr Lawrence was not pig-sticked because the City blue bloods didn't like him," insisted one senior broker. "Rather he tried to make too many omelettes and broke one egg too many in the process."

The decision to press ahead with the introduction of an electronic "order-matching" system for share trading - to compete with the traditional 'quote-driven" system - was the final straw which angered the mighty investment banks. But Mr Lawrence had already ruf-fled a broader City church with the introduction of "rolling set-tlement" and the Alternative Investment Market, both of which hit brokers in their pockets.

In Westminster, MPs were sceptical about the Bank of England's ability to resolve the Exchange's problems. Mr Legg said: "I am not sure the Bank of England will be forward-looking enough on this issue."

Mr Bruce said: "The Bank has not exactly covered itself in glory recently.

However, Alistair Darling, the Labour Party's City spokesman, said yesterday: "For its own survival the Stock Exchange needs to unite quickly around a strategy. It may be that the Bank of England should use its influence and knock some heads together."

The Bank of England sees itself as a troubleshooter, helping a prominent City institution overcome a specific problem. Although it took responsibility





ment system, after the collapse of the Exchange's Taurus project, muscling in on the Exchange's core functions is not on

its agenda. Ian Plenderleith, the Bank of has joined the Stock Exchange board as deputy chairman, is restoring members' confidence in the Exchange after this latest débacte.

The Bank of England Govenor, Eddie George, said: "What is important is that peo-

for Crest, the new share settle- Stock Exchange has confronted clearly a problem and is going to address it in a constructive way.

Another priority is to move forward quickly with Sequence, the new trading system whose England executive director who steering committee was appointed yesterday.

The Exchange hopes to inlikely to see his top priority as troduce its new flexible trading system, called Sequence, in August this year. Developed at a cost of £47m it will replace Scaq, the system that launched the Big Bang in 1986. It is designed to cater for any type of trading, inple should be persuaded that the cluding the order-driven system

used on Wall Street and on the Continental bourses.

The problem is that the investment banks, which house the City's traditional marketmaking functions, have hundreds of millions of pounds of capital tied up in the quote sys-tem. They buy and hold stock, ensuring London's much-vaunted liquidity. But if the money is not being traded because of a competing order-driven system then it is not carning. And that, the big players fear, will cost them a lot of money.

It was not that the investment banks did not accept the need Lawrence was doing was trying

for what John Kemp-Welch, the LSE's chairman, diplomatically termed "additional trading services". Tradepoint - a competing order-matching sys-tem launched last year to service big institutional fund managers who want to trade large chunks of securities cheaply and easily - had already shown that the demand was there. Rather the banks felt that if the market was to move to or-

der-matching it ought to be done with their consent. They felt they were the market," one broker said. "What Mr to set up a system in competi-tion. The result is that some of London's most important market-makers have been dragging their heels. One. Kleinwort Benson, has not even signed a contract to take on the new service.

Whether the market-makers will now endorse a system that in the end will benefit institutional investors at their expense remains to be seen. But they are quick to point out that Stock Exchange members have spent a fortune on improving, or trying to improve, the service London offers.

minutes under the tapestries TOM STEVENSON City Editor

Michael Lawrence discovered he was to face a vote of noconfidence only half an hour before the scheduled 11 o'clock board meeting in the starkly modern board room at the top of the Stock Exchange huilding on Old Broad Street. He had little time to prepare the most important address of his two years as chief executive.

He spoke for only a few minutes to the 17 assembled board members, three short of a full complement, seated around the large crescent shaped table that dominates the room. Less wood-panelled old City than medieval court, his fate was to be decided under the shadow of a series of magnificent tapestries, representing the City of London.

Gra

John Kemp-Welch, his chair-man, then informed Mr Lawrence that the loss of confidence with which he was viewed by both the board and the Stock Exchange's members had reached crisis point. A vote would be taken immediately on whether he should be required to resign his position.

At this point, barely 10 minutes into the meeting, Mr Lawrence left the room for the last time. He knew the result of the vote before it was even taken and went straight to his office to consult with trusted members of the executive he had created in his attempt to build more commercial structure than the old boys' club deciding his fate in the board room.

Back in the boardroom, the 17 board members, representatives of the most powerful market-making firms in the City and some of the biggest institutional investors, a director of the Bank of England and a captain of industry, cast their votes. It was not unanimous, but there was never any doubt Comment, page 19 about the result.

Colombia bonanza for BP

HUGH O'SHAUGNESSY

The amount of oil and gas found by BP in Colombia is much larger than originally suspected and production is set to rise very steeply, bringing a large bonanza to the company. According to industry observers here, the company will be producing one million barrels of oil within 10 years, slightly less than currently comes out of the UK sector of the North Sea.

BP itself will not confirm the reports but does say that current production from the Cusiana-Cupiagua field is rising very fast and that it expects to be producing 500,000 barrels a day by the end of next year. Last month's production stood at 180,000 bpd up from 40,000 bpd in December 1994.

One black spot in the situation is the continuing disruption of the oil industry by guerrillas. Shell claimed last month that since 1986 guerrillas had attached pipelines 371 times and caused losses for repair and clean-up approaching £30m. The 1.3 million barrels of crude which escaped from the principal pipeline linking the Cano Limon field to the Pacific port of Covenas was equivalent to four times that lost by the Eccon Valder off the coast of Alaska in 1989.

Source: FT Information

December sales dive closes disappointing year for cars

RUSSELL HOTTEN

New UK car sales dived in December, ending a difficult year in which the motor industry saw only a 1.8 per cent rise in annual sales despite aggressive marketing and cut-price deals in the showroom.

The Society of Motor Manu-

The society's figures pub-lished yesterday showed sales last month down 2.32 per cent to 71,540, the worst December since 1991, leaving the yearly total at 1,945,366.

facturers and Traders described it as a "disappointing end to a disappointing year" and forecast only another modest rise in 1996.

Private sales in 1995 fell 3 per cent, and the yearly total was propped up by a 6.3 per cent rise in the company market.

Although there were high-lights, including a strong rise in mark reached in 1997. Rover's sales in December, and a first successful year for Dae-

The figures reflect the patchy recovery of the UK economy after recession in the early 1990s when annual new car sales dipped from a late 1980s high of 2.3 million to less than

traditionally the second-weak-

1.6 millon. The society forecasts

sales of 1.97 million this year.

expected rises in the two previous months.

Ian Shepherdson, economist at HSBC Greenwell, pointed out that fourth-quarter sales were 6.4 per cent up on 1993's figure, and the best quarterly performance since the final

three months of 1992. He said: "We expect car sales The sharp fall in December to rise by 5 per cent or so in 1996 as incomes rise and interest

woo cars, the industry was est month after July – was rates fall. But sales are in- 1995, giving the company a pleased to see the back of 1995. probably a correction after uncreasingly volatile and keen 12.34 per cent market share, pricing is all-important.

Rover had a difficult first few months of 1995, and there was talk of owner BMW losing patience. But the company took a 23.56 per cent market share in December, due largely to bring-ing forward the launch of its 200 model. The new Rover 400 and 100 were the top two best sell-

ers for the month. Rover sold 240,007 cars in 12.34 per cent market share, against sales of 245,240 and a 12.83 per cent share in 1994.

The three top-selling cars of 1995 were all Fords: Escort, Fiesta and Mondeo. Ford took its customary place as the UK's biggest seller, taking a 21.11 per cent market share, against 21.91 per cent in 1994. Next came Vauxhall, with market share of 15.12 per cent (16.25 per cent). per cent (3.07); and Volkswa-Daewoo, the Korean com-

pany that does not use car franchises but sells direct to the public, had a successful first year in the UK market, selling 13,169 cars to take a 0.68 per cent share of the market.

Other companies to enjoy a good 1995 included Jaguar, which sold 8,727 cars (6,659): BMW, whose market share rose to 2.83 per cent (2.38 per cent); Fiat, whose share rose to 3.64 gen, at 4.02 per cent (3.90).

reluctant to cut costs

Insurance companies are refusing to cut charges on the policies they sell, in spite of being forced to disclose them for the first time, a survey from a senior financial services watchdog reveals, writes Nic Cicutti.

Despite hopes of a price war in the wake of new rules from the Personal Investment Authority, more than 20 per cent of the companies it sampled now charge more for the pen-sions they sell than they did a

The PIA survey, published earlier this week, showed that among the 67 companies offering 25-year unit linked pension schemes, 14 were more expensive than a year earlier. Over that length of time

charges by some companies, in-cluding household names such as Pearl and London & Man-

chester, can be up to a third or more of a policy's total proceeds.

Potential policy proceeds of about £63,800 can be cut by as much as £22,000 by some companies. By contrast, others, including Equitable Life or National Mutual Life, will only deduct charges.

The regulator's survey came out for the first time last week, a year after the introduction of rules making insurers give specitic details of their expenses to their clients. When the new rules were introduced, it was claimed they boosted competitiveness and led to cheaper prices for policyholders. But the survey shows that although the level of charges fell by 3.2 per cent for all the firms in the survey, the drop was far greater among life companies with highest costs.

Slipped?" to be be screened by Cranada Television on Monday.

Survey shows insurers | Marks & Spencer denies | child labour claims

make allegations that some

NIGEL COPE

Marks & Spencer was embroiled in a potentially damaging controversy last night over the alleged use by its suppliers of child labour and the incorrect

labelling of some of its garments. Marks & Spencer, which prides itself on buying British. has withdrawn a range of women's pyjamas which had been labelled as "Made in the UK" when they had been made in Morocco.

The decision comes as the

company braces itself for a

two-part World in Action doc-

umentary entitled Saint Michael - has the halo

M&S suppliers are exploiting child labour in Third World countries and incorrectly labelling the garments as made in the UK. Yesterday Marks & Spencer said it had never knowingly

sourced garments made using child labour and denied that other incorrectly labelled clothing could be available in M&S On the incorrect labelling

M&S said: "We believe this was a one-off mistake. It said it would not be paying for the pyjamas, which had

been supplied by Desmond & Sons, of Northern Ireland. The company has "categorically de-

The programme is expected to nied" allegations that its Moroccan sub-contractor was using

> Desmond is one of Northern Ireland's oldest clothing manufacturers and enjoys close links with M&S.

> The World in Action programme is expected to make a series of allegations against M&S suppliers. The company ran into trouble last summer when it was accused of copying the design of a swimsuit.

> Any further allegations on incorrect labelling would be damaging for a company that says it buys 78 per cent of its products from UK suppliers. M&S has built its reputation on the strength of its brand and a trustworthy, honest image.

Rating cut at Eagle Star

The credit rating of Eagle Star, the insurance company owned by tobacco giant BAT, was dramatically cut last night by Moody's Investors Service in the latest episode of a crisis that has hit the industry over profit

The new rating, from A2 to A3, places Eagle Star at the bottom of the category normally considered "good".

Embarrassingly for the insurer, Moody's hinted yesterday that the grading might have been even lower but for the

support it receives from BAT, its parent, itself rated A2. Rafael Villarreal, senior an-alyst at Moody's, said the action ollowed Eagle Star's relatively poor performance in the ecoeral insurance sector at a no-

tentially good time in the cycle. He said: "This was long over-due. Eagle Star has not benefited from the upturn. We will be waiting to see how it performs over the next two years." Moody's has been down-grading Eagle Star for the past

five years, but for the past three years has taken no action against the insurer. Eagle Star said: "We are dis-

appointed but note that it seems that other companies have been downgraded and we are not alone. We believe we have a range of competitive products that will help us through the downturn."

Standard & Poor's also said

yesterday that it was bringing

forward reviews of a number of insurers, with possible down-gradings of previous assess-ments for several firms in the Among those already considered vulnerable by S&P are Clerical Medical, downgraded

this week from AA- to A+, and Scottish Provident, which was moved down from A+ to AA. The downgrading comes af-ter Norwich Union, the UK's ond-largest mutual insurer,

had its financial strength rating reduced by Standard & Poor's in October. Standard Life, the large Scottish mutual, and Pearl, owned by the Australian insurance giant AMP, last year both retained

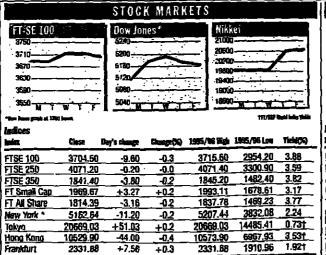
their AAA ratings.
In Pearl's case, this came after reference was made to the fact that, while it faced the same problems as the rest of the industry, its parent was finan-

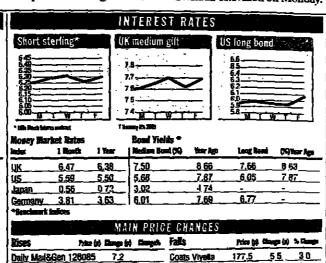
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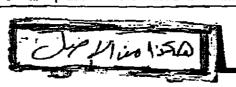
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business



overy

pover faller

'If the Government chooses to sit on the sidelines while the equity market splits

even more decisively between the

wholesale and retail components, we will know just how much it really cares about

the Sids'

Stock Exchange must confront the hard question that goes to the very heart of its continued existence. Is there any longer a rationale for such a body in today's dereg-

answers that question, there are other parties with a legitimate interest in the outcome. There is the Bank of England, with its longstanding concern about London's continued vitality as an international financial centre. And small investors have a right to be worried about any decision that leaves them even further out in the cold.

empire - but appeared to pull off the trick of finding a new one. Gone was the cosy club that presided over a carrel of jobbers and brokers, who earned rich rewards from minimum capital. Gone was the physical presence of the stock market at the Exchange in Throgmorton Street, as Big Bang led to a scattering of the market-makers to all quarters and the onset of screen-based trading.

Stock Exchange retained a crucial role in the new devolved market by presiding over Seaq, the system that disseminated the market through Talisman. Through provid-ing these crucial services, the Stock Exchange was able to participate in the remarkable expansion in equity trading in London in the late 1980s. When recapitalised City security houses grabbed a large share of international trades, particularly in European equities, the Stock Exchange, by now grandly renamed as the International

behind. Taurus, the all-singing and dancing

the Stock Exchange: if it could not carry out a key strategic function - the modernisation of settlement - then the City would not wait indefinitely. At the same time, the new system aroused legitimate fears that small investors would be short-changed, with higher costs through the use of nominee accounts. One of the key reasons why investors to the big market-makers. Crest, by contrast, was specifically designed for high-value transactions.

Now the Stock Exchange faces an even more fundamental challenge in the form of order-based rather than price quote-based trading. Despite Tradepoint's slow start, the economies from order-based trading are proving a successful attraction for rival financial centres in winning back business from London. The strategic interest for London as an international financial centre is therefore to have such a system. However, that militates against the commercial interests of the big market-makers who dominate the board of the Stock Exchange.

Despite their opposition, such a system will come to play an important role in London as elsewhere. Whether it does so under the auspices of the Stock Exchange is another matter. The example of Crest should serve to concentrate the minds of those still doubtful of the need for the exchange's new trading system, Sequence VI, to incorporate an order-matching system for big company trades.

The alternative is fragmentation of the market. The Bank of England's view is that the development of competing markets will not operate against the interests of the City as an international financial centre or the small investor. Yet while the big players, both price quotations of individual market- Taurus foundered was that it had unsuc- institutional investors and market-makers.

might well lose out. If the Government chooses to sit on the sidelines while the equity market splits even more decisively between its wholesale and retail components, we will know just how much it really cares about the Sids whose money it sought so seductively in the 1980s.

Tackling Murdoch over sports monopoly

Upsetting Rupert Murdoch is a danger-ous game for politicians - particularly those in such a parlous state as the present Government. Despite this, John Major appeared to throw caution to the winds yesterday by going public on his opposition to Mr Murdoch's growing monopoly of TV rights to big sports events.

Three cheers for Mr Major. The trouble is that what he was proposing by way of remedy didn't amount to very much - a move to beef up protection for the handful of listed events that are currently available on "free" TV, such as Wimbledon and the FA Cup

Mr Murdoch has not moved on these, even though he could do so under the rules. The current legislation merely prohibits the exclusive broadcast of the listed events on pay-per-view basis - a market that does not yet exist in the UK. Nothing precludes | doch was prepared to run.

a pay-TV broadcaster from pitching for the rights to, say, the FA Cup.

To date, BSkyB has been perfectly content to sew up the live rights to major matches, allowing one of the terrestrial broadcasters to show a few big-ticket fixtures. Even in the most recent Football League deal, which includes a listed event, the FA Cup Final, RSkyB has decided not to rock the boat. Under the arrangement, the Final will be

shown on ITV. By tightening the rules on listed events, for instance through prohibiting all pay-TV exclu-sive broadcasis. Mr Major's Government would merely pre-empt any future raid by Mr Murdoch and his associates. If the Government really wants to rein Mr Murdoch in, it will have to do a great deal more. But first, it ought to wait to see the outcome of the Office of Pair Trading inquiry into, among other things, the exclusivity deals signed by BSkyB and major sporting organisations. If these are shown to be anti-competitive, BSkyB may have to change its strategy.

Even then, Mr Murdoch's deep, deep

pockets may be hard to offset. His pay-TV empire in the UK is now so profitable that few can hope to challenge him when it comes to bidding for rights. The most a laisser-faire Government can hope to do is jump hard on any anti-competitive behaviour (restrictive practices, predatory pricing) and hope that other media companies find the money and guts to take the kind of risks Mr Mur-

Granada faces growing doubts over Forte offer

MATHEW HORSMAN and JOHN SHEPHERD

Doubts over Granada's ability to win the fight for Forte deepened vesterday, when a leading analyst said Granada would have to sweeten its offer drastically to around 380p a share to clinch the hostile battle.

According to informed sources, Granada is unwilling to bid much more than about 370p. and would be prepared to walk away rather than overpay.

Kleinwort Benson, which has one of the City's most respected leisure teams, said Forte had a break-up value of at least 380p a share. Granada "will need to produce a final offer increased to the region of our break-up value and a more rational, detailed and credible set of plans for the whole of Forte if it is to prise investors away*

Granada has until Tuesday to raise its bid. The initial offer is for four Granada shares and £23.25 in cash for every 15 Forte shares, valuing the company at 329p a share based on Granada's close last night of 647p.

The takeover battle will help determine the future of the Savoy Group, in which Forte has a majority stake but only minority voting control. Speculation grew vesterday that the Wontner family, one of the controlling shareholders of the Savoy, could be willing to sell at the right price, fuelling rumours that the company could go to another buyer in the aftermath of the Granada bid. According to Kleinwort Ben-

son. Forte's offer of an £800m share buy-back values Forte at 368p a share and would enhance the company's earnings per share in the year to January 1998.

Granada yesterday said it would make a final decision about an increased offer next week. The TV and leisure company is also expected to detail precisely how it intends to enhance Forte's profitability by at least £100m a year through rebranding, cost-cutting, centralised purchasing of food and beverages and higher prices at Forte's hotels.

But analysts have challenged Granada's claims. "More than 60 per cent of demand for rooms at Posthouse comes from the wholesale market," an analyst said. "We are not talking about people booking a room for a night but about people booking thousands of nights. If you ask them to pay more they will tell



Bidder: Gerry Robinson, Granada's chief executive

you to sod off. They can easily take their business elsewhere." Granada's institutional share-

holders are said to be concerned about the prospect of a sharply higher offer, and many appear to prefer that the company cither retire or make a separate bid for Forte's restaurants businesses, which Forte has agreed to sell for £1.05bn to Whitbread. In the event of a higher offer for the assets, Forte and Whitbread would split the pre-

But Granada is believed to have ruled out such a separate offer, claiming that it wants both the restaurants and the hotels to achieve the economies of scale it has identified.

Analysts said yesterday that it was hard to see how Granada could justify a much higher offer, particularly as it has now ruled out using its 11 per cent stake in BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster, as leverage.

The bid battle will be decided largely by institutional shareholders. More than 40 per cent of Forte's shares are held by index funds, which stand to be the main beneficiary of the company's £800m share buy-back plans. At Forte's minimum offer of 330p a share plus the 23p distribution of Savov shares, the whole package is worth 368p per share.

The index funds will also be left with 80 per cent of their Forte shares, which are guaranteed to return dividend increases of 20 per cent in each of the next three years.

Screen scrap: Murdoch's increasing dominance of key events may be target for new legislation



Hot potato: John Major last summer, launching the Government's sports policy document. BSkyB's dominance of TV coverage is under review

MATHEW HORSMAN Media Editor Rupert Murdoch's dominance of televised sports may become

the target of new legislation, John Major, the Prime Minister, hinted yesterday. The news sent shares in BSkyB, Mr Murdoch's 40 per

come under direct attack. the controversial issue of sport rights, Mr Major said the Gov-

ernment was considering ways of further protecting the handful of top sporting events that are still broadcast on terrestrial television.

the moment, but no conclusions have been reached." To date, both leading parties

newspapers has been influential during election campaigns. BSkyB has secured the rights to all Premier League Football matches, Rugby League and a share of the Football League. Under current legislation, a handful of events cannot be broadcast exclusively on a pay-

per-view basis. These include

the FA Cup Final and certain

Wimbledon tennis matches.

However, the current rules do

broadcaster has teamed up with BSkyB to broadcast Match of the Day - highlights of Premier New legislation on listed events would have to be bal-

anced by other concerns, according to the Government. Few want to return to the days of a duopoly made up of the BBC and ITV, which served to limit the amount of money flowing to professional sports.

With the entry of Mr Murvalue of sport contracts has soared to record levels. Sky claims it has improved the covnot prevent the listed events erage of sporting events.

Welsh Water rejects separate listing

Welsh Water said it was unwilling to give an undertaking to the water regulator, Ofwat, to separately list its water utility subsidiary as a pre-condition to its offer for South Wales Electricity. Welsh Water said a listing would undermine the benefits of the acquisition of Swalec for customers and shareholders. Stock Exchange regulations "would inhibit the efficient management" of the existing Welsh Water and Swalec businesses as a combined group

IN BRIEF

Decline in company failures slows

The downward trend in the number of company failures continued last year but at a much slower pace than in 1994. There was a drop of 94, or 4 per cent, in the number of receiverships and administration orders in 1995, compared with a 35 per cent decline in 1994, according to accountancy firm Touche Ross. But December recorded the smallest number of appointments in one month since 1989. Last year the biggest reductions occurred in East Anglia and the South-west. The number of failures in Wales, the West Midlands and Scotland increased.

Bundesbank paves way to rate cut

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In an unexpected move that opens the way to future interest rate cuts, the German Bundesbank lent banks an extra DM3bn (£1.3bn) through repurchase agreements to ease a shortage of funds in the money market. It was only the second time in a year that there has been an additional tender designed to stop market interest rates from rising.

BA hopeful on Peking landing rights

British Airways said it hoped for an early resolution of talks between the UK and Chinese governments on landing rights at Hong Kong and Peking. BA plans to double services on the Hong Kong-Peking routes have stalled. A source close to the talks said no agreement had been reached because China is demanding access to Hong Kong by a fourth mainland Chinese airline.

General Electric wins \$700m order

America's General Electric has won an order worth \$700m (£466m) from Philippine Airlines for engines to power aircraft ordered last week from Boeing and Airbus Industrie. Rolls-Royce bid for some of the work though the airline has not ordered R-R engines

Adobe Systems shares plunge

Shares in Adobe Systems, the Californian computer software group, slumped 38 per cent in Wall Street trading vesterday when it reported heavy write-offs and a \$11.8m loss for the previous year.

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

Choosing the building blocks of recovery

tiative struggled to gain momentum and commercial building work conrinued to be available at only waferthin margins.

But from the beginning of November shares, especially in the pure building companies, bounced sharply. recovering much of their underpermarket. As the chart below shows. when sentiment changes in this sectwo months on little volume.

What has driven the rise is the belief among investors that conditions cannot deteriorate any further, that the trend for interest rates is probably down, claims from building societies like Halifax that housing transactions are set for noticeable improvements this year and in 1997, and the dramatic underperformance of most building

on how much you believe that housebuilders have really adjusted their cost bases and working practices to cope with what is likely to be a relatively lowinflation environment with house prices probably static in real terms. Recent profits warnings from Cala and Raine suggest not all the pain has yet been taken account of.

As a result the price/earnings ratios of the pure builders, ranging from 13.5 for Barratt to 17 for Bryant look pretty demanding in the context of a market rating of only 13. A 15 per cent aver-

Shares in building companies had a age premium seems to expect more pretty appalling time of it for the first profit upgrades than appear likely. No one expects the first half of this year to be particularly rewarding for housebuilders so a great deal is being asked

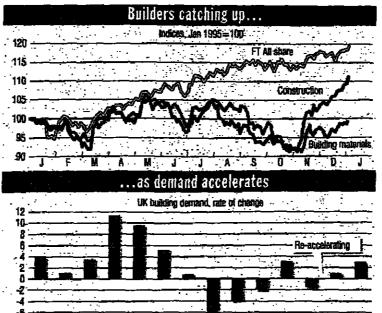
and Barratt, their ability to drive volume growth and (certainly in Berkeley's case) a strong product offer are attractive. Redrow is also a quality formance relative to the rest of the company but probably up with events.

As with the builders, the materials companies demand a careful company-by-company approach. Even

ing the year, the spend on joinery and fittings is likely to lag consumption of eye. Wolseley and RMC are safe widely over the last 12 months, with heavier materials such as concrete, blocks and bricks.

Prices of aggregates held up pretty well last year, certainly much better than those for lighter products, which face more competition from imports and a much more fragmented market. There has also been quite a lot of consolidation of the heavy side of the sector (the Wimpey/Tarmac asset swap, Minorco's acquisition of Tilcon) which

so rising profits. CRH is probably the best quality



But for those looking for a bit more excitement, there are a host of recovery stories to choose from. Caradon is probably the most extreme example, a company with many good businesses that took its eye off the ball

Stores face more price worries

The spate of price-cutting by some of the larger supermarket groups rather clouds the picture for investors who might have been considering the sector in 1996. Safeway's decision to cut the price of 70 lines by a third during January follows similar action by Sainsbury and Iceland in the last few

Most analysts are dismissing these campaigns as mere jockeying for position rather than a prelude to a fullscale price war. However, most are terday claimed it had enjoyed its agreed that the price-cutting will not stop here. With Tesco piling on market share and Asda and Safeway improving all the time, Sainsbury is fore Christmas up 30 per cent on the expected to launch a much more sig-

Share price performances among to leave the sector well alone.

widely over the last 12 months, with clear winners and losers emerging. Top of the pile is Asda, whose shares have risen by more than 70 per cent over the year as it has consolidated its position as a lower-priced alternative. Tesco has also risen strongly as it outmanoeuvred Sainshury with its lovalty card and keener prices. Argyll has outperformed the FT-SE 100 on the

shares have slumped from 477p in September to just 381p as the City became alarmed at its declining market share and inaction. Kwik Save and Iceland have also been struggling.

This month should provide more information on relative performance when most of the supermarkets release trading updates. William Morrison led the way yesterday when it reported a healthy gain in like-for-like sales of 4.3 per cent during December and a 3.1 per cent increase on the year to

Waitrose, part of the privately owned John Lewis Partnership, yesmost successful Christmas ever, with sales for the year up 14 per cent on last year and sales in the last week be-

Asda and Tesco, which are calling the with price pressures likely to reduce supermarket shares are not too encouraging. Until the pricing picture becomes clearer, investors are advised

Time heads are banged together at Exchange To lose one chief executive may be a mis-fortune: to lose two in less than three tinued to underpin the settlement of the in settlement, from custodians and small of a premier league market, small investors I fortune: to lose two in less than three years looks like carelessness. Now that Michael Lawrence has been so unceremoniously thrown overboard, the London

> ulated electronic markets? However the Stock Exchange eventually

Ten years ago, the Stock Exchange lost an

Despite these revolutionary changes, the

Stock Exchange, shared in the glory.

The 1990s brought a rude awakening as

the Stock Exchange was caught on the wrong foot again and again. While other financial centres successfully modernised their settlement procedures, London's trailed attempt to regain lost ground, had to be abandoned - costing the job of Peter Rawlins, who had been brought in to oversee the project. The Bank of England had to step in as project manager for the replacement project. Crest, with development capital of £12m provided by a consortium of 69 firms.

The Bank's intervention served notice on

Major hints at challenge to **BSkyB** sports

cent-owned satellite broadcaster, down 7p to 413p, amid growing concerns that his lucrative near-monopoly might In his first public comment on

"This is an interesting debate," Mr Major told BBC's Breakfast News, "and it is one Murdoch's growing monopoly,

have shied away from criticising Mr Murdoch, whose stable of

from being broadcast on pay-TV - for instance, BSkyB's Sky Sports network, which is avail-able on a subscription basis only via satellite or cable.

Last year, several media companies lobbied the Gov-ernment to include firmer protection of listed events in the new Broadcasting Bill, which will receive a second reading in the House of Lords in two weeks. However, the draft version of the legislation did not include any references to sport

rights.
Mr Murdoch's dominance of sport is the target of an inquiry by the Office of Fair Trading, which is also reviewing the terms under which BSkyB makes its own channels available to the cable industry.

that is under consideration at although the public service League matches.

doch's broadcasting service, the

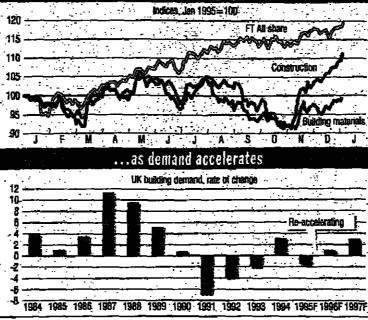
10 months of 1995 as the housing market stagnated, the private finance ini-

tor, shares can move very sharply -Laing, for example, has seen its shares if the housing market does pick up dur- company within the sub-sector. Travis rise more than 25 per cent in the past

shares over the past two years. Whether the rise is justified depends

of the second-half recovery. As ever, selectivity is the key, and the quality managements of Berkeley

should make for greater efficiency and



and could benefit from the appoint-

ment of a new chief operating officer.

nificant campaign by the spring. Sainsbury is phasing out its Saver use the money saved with these disthe board. But until Sainsbury makes its move uncertainty will continue to depress the entire sector.

back of healthy sales growth. The clear loser is Sainsbury, whose

December.

1994 level. The most attractive stocks are still loyalty card next month. It is likely to shots in the war at the moment. But counts to invest in lower prices across margins, the immediate prospects for

programme which is expected to allege that some M&S sup-

pliers are exploiting overseas

15p to 111p on hopes its Aus-

tralian associate has made a di-

amond find and goldminer

Bakyrchik rose 25p to 325p on

the firm gold price.

Pan Andean Resources im-

proved 1.25p to 18.5p with, it

was said, some of the former

shareholders of Aran Energy

switching into the shares. Aran

was taken over for £203m by

Statoil the Norwegian state oil company, and settlement

cheques went out this week.

a TB treatment, continued its

progress, gaining a further 35p

to 310p. But Winchester Mul-

ti-Media's disastrous publish-

ing venture lowered the shares

Stanford Rook, developing

Waverley Mining jumped

child labour.

FT-SE 100

Gilts Index

95.33 - 0.31

SHARESPOTTERES.

market report/shares

Worthy but dull generators suffering a power failure 3,704.5 - 9.6 Shares of the two leading gen-FT-SE 250 erators are suffering a power failure. Since peaking in the 4,072.2 - 0.2 FT-SE 350 summer National Power and 1,841.4 *-* 3.8 PowerGen have underperformed as the stock market has SEAQ VOLUME fretted about their tougher 680.5m shares, trading environment and the looming second instalment on 31,043 bargains

the partly-paid shares. Dividend yields, for so long the big price prop, are much more humdrum and trading prospects solid but exceedingly dull. The Government's decision to refer the generators' bids for regional electricity companies to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission has also eroded sentiment. And even a £244m share buy-back by National Power produced only a glimmer of enthusiasm.

This week Goldman Sachs made cautious noises about the two generators and there is talk of other investment houses turning negative.

The two privatised utilities

arrived on the market nearly four years ago when the Gov-ernment sold 60 per cent of their capital. It unloaded the remaining 40 per cent last year with investors paying in three instalments. The second round is due on 6 February when NP shareholders have to find 170p a share and PG

shareholders 185p.
With the Tories' grip on power even weaker than a year ago there are fears many of the generators' small shareholders will be tempted to sell their partly-paid shares, rather than put in even more cash.

NP's shares, 558p last year, held at 436p and the partlypaid traded at 139p. PG, 607p at their high, fell 7p to 513p with the partly-paid off 7p at

197p. National Grid, ensier at 198p, was again the subject of some big trades with SBC Warburg in the thick of the ac-



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN Stock market reporter of the year

nearly 38 million. The RECs most likely takeover victim, was are wasting no time cashing in the best-performing blue chip, achieving a 9p gain to 276p. Sun Alliance added 11p to their Grid chips with the predictable depressing impact on the company's shares. This 380p. Commercial Union 13p week some large parcels have gone through with, it is to 623p and Legal & General 11p to 687p. thought, the RECs that have There is excited talk that a been taken over selling at the bidder could appear next week. National Westminster Bank,

behest of their new masters. The rest of the market had a subdued session with the FI-SE 100 index ending 9.6 points lower at 3,704.5. At one time it was off 25.

and Thorn EMI attempted to instil a little cheer into the pro-

GRE, regarded by ABN

Assorted insurance groups gate, chairman, will soon produce details of the music and rental demerger. The shares

gained 23p to 1,611p. BSkyB fell 7p to 413p. In

down 3p to 654p, is one ru-

moured predator; an overseas

pops on hopes Sir Colin South-

Thorn remained top of the

strike is also anticipated.

vision group was the subject of a double-whammy – the Government's decision to look worries about next week's TV at the way BSkyB has tied up so many sporting events at the expense of the BBC and ITV, and suggestions Granada planned to sell its 6.5 per cent shareholding to support its struggle for Forte.

Granada's rejection of the sale talk helped lift BSkyB shares off their 405p low.

Daily Mail & General Trust gained 85p to 1,260p on a Merrill Lynch recommendation; RMC, the building ma-terials group, suffered a 27p hit to 966p as Nat West Securities cut its forecasts from £326m to £321.5m and from £355m to £325m.

Latest shots in what the market regards as the "phoney" supermarket price war left J Sainsbury down 5p to 381p and trimmed Argyli

and Tesco.

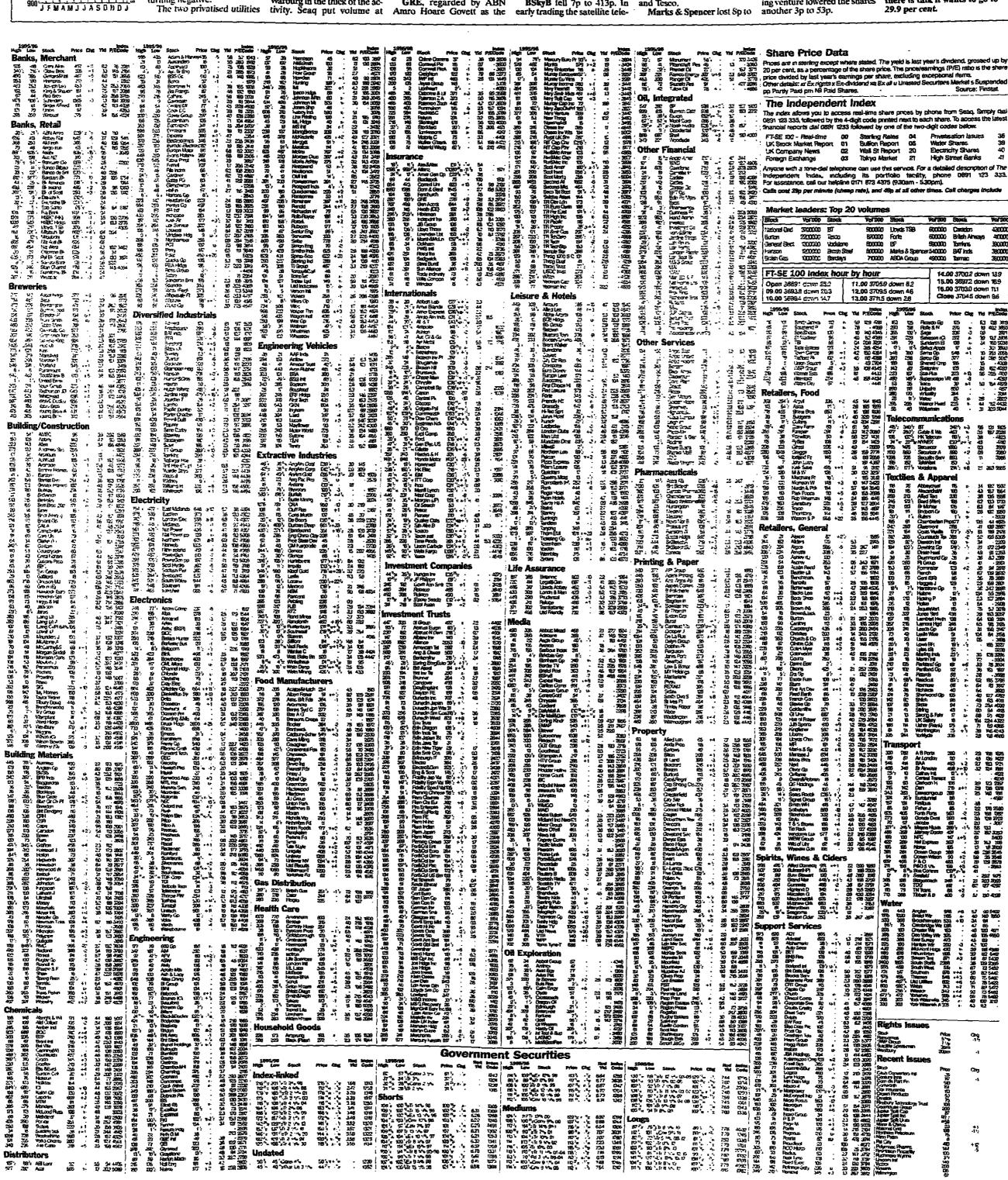
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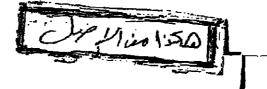
Reunion Mining, a flop since it arrived on the market last month, rose 3p to 66p in

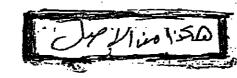
busy trading. Algy Cluff, whose Cluff Re-sources has been taken over by Ashanti, is rumoured to be keen to join Reunion, which has been developed by ex-CR men. Reunion. like CR. is deeply involved in African gold mining and Mr Cluff, who is 56, admits to being besotted by Africa and its gold potential. Renaion, a Luxembourg-traded share, was introduced to London last month; briefly it touched 83p but has since been to 56p.

[] Union, the finance group, duly confirmed a sharehold-

er build-up. Melix Financial, thought to be related to Bahamas-based Joseph Lewis, has moved its interest to 11.2 per cent and there is talk it wants to go to







unit trusts/data

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sport

Given the therapeutic effect of shouting 'waaaaa' at football matches, perhaps season tickets could be on prescription

month complete with a supplement of snapshots called 'The Best Sports Pictures Of The 90s". It is full of corkers: a Benetton car combusting after several gallons of high-octane fuel are splattered over its chassis; two rowers not content with catching mere crabs, put off their stroke by a dolphin vaulting their bows; John Daly being assisted in his celebrations at the moment of triumph in the Open last July by a streaker with, painted on his back, the words "19th Hole" and an arrow pointing

buttockwards. My favourite, though, is the most recent. Taken at the Manchester derby on 14 October 1995, it features, in the foreground, a blurred, unfocused image of the City forward Niall Ouinn, head in hands. He has

clearly just missed a chance, the ease of which can be gleaned from the reactions of the United fans banked

Parkhead. If it came with a sound-track, you know the noise the picture would make: that universal hoot in front of him. It is the fans who photographer Roy Beardsworth has focused on, capturing them rising from their seats to console Quinn and offer him advice. Judging by the many of the gestures, the principal suggestion seems to be that if the player spent less time pursuing the sin of Onan and more time practising his shooting, there would be fewer recurrences in future.

It is impossible not to smile when you look at the photograph. Personal affiliations don't come into it. The picture would have been as compulsive if it featured Andy Cole and the massed ranks of the Kippax, Chris Armstrong and the North Bank, or Gazza and the Jungle at

of derision, uttered most vigorously when it is your neighbour who has come a cropper - "waasa"

Not that everyone saw it that way. When it first appeared in the Telegraph, the snap provoked a chorus of disapproval. Retired generals complained about the behaviour of the lower orders and self-righteous pundits suggested that it represented the ugly face of football, the kind of foul-mouthed abuse which could not be tolerated in the anodyne world that is new football. I thought it showed the opposite.

True there were a significant num-

ber of ugly faces in the picture, but

that is evidence of a genetic not a be-

havioural problem. Rather, the over-

Jim White



whelming majority of the crowd were smiling grinning convulsed with irrational joy. The snap could be used as a poster advertising the main reason to attend matches live, rather than watching from the armchair: it is fun. And a significant part of that fun is shouting "waaaa" at those who have made a fool of themselves.

Canthy compromised by the constant graceless, silly whinges of an OAP graceless, silly whinges of an OAP mega-moaner sitting behind me, a mega-moaner sitting mega-moaner sitting sitting mega-moaner sitting mega-mo

Indeed, I have long reckoned it is more than fun. A recent report suggested that membership of health clubs should be made available on the national health. It would be money well spent, was the ra-tionale, because fit people are less likely to succumb to certain illnesses, thus would not require expensive treatment. In that case, given the therapeutic effect of shouting "wasaa" at football matches, perhaps season tickets could be made available on prescription too.

I had first-hand (and first-ear) experience of the cathartic effect of the waaaa" at the recent Manchester United against Newcastle game. My enjoyment was being signifi-

codger incapable of understanding that for criticism to have any purpose it has to be legitimate. On a night when United played their hest football for a year, he displayed no critical judgment whatsoever, maintaining a monotonous motormouthed tirade of complaint: when a Cantona back-heel didn't come off

("what do you call that, yer prat"), when a Giggs shot hit the bar "don't you know where the goal is?") or when I stood up the better to enjoy yet another pulsating move ("sit down yer pillock"). Except he didn't say pillock. Had he been at the World Cup Final in 1970, you could imagine him whinging at Pele for passing the ball to Carlos Alberto

could simply move away. But with seats, you are stuck, left to imagine what a nightmare it would be to have a season ticket next to him. There was an opportunity, however, to gain revenge. When a long pass from Phil Neville drifted over the Newcastle defence he went apoplectic ("what the hell was tha ... "). Before he could could complete his sentence, though, Keane had picked up what was a bril-liant pass and scored. With that kind of spontaneity only seen at football matches, as one the entire row turned round and yelled at him: waaaa", we went. If only there had been a photographer there to capture the pleasure on our faces.

NEW FACES FOR '96: Young athlete of the year sets new targets. Mike Rowbottom reports

Danvers takes the cool route

Sally Gunnell, Kelly Holmes and Jonathan Edwards might be the sort of thing a young athlete would get nervous about. But getting nervous is not Natasha Danvers' style.

For this 18-year-old from Sydenham, receiving the British Athletic Federation award as Young Athlete of 1995 from Prince Philip was an entirely relaxed occasion - even if it was something of a trial for her proud parents.

Thèy were getting a bit hacked off about it," she said. "But I just saw it as a fun day. I go with the flow."

She brings the same attitude to bear to a career as a hurdler, which many respected observers within the sport believe can take her to the very top.

Her energies this season are focused on Sydney and the World Junior Championships, where she has a very good chance of winning the 100 metres hurdles title. However, it is the prospect of her return to the same city four years hence - for the 2000 Olympics - which has coaches and commentators smacking their lips in anticipa-

Judy Vernon, Britain's former Commonwealth high hurdles champion, has coached Natasha ever since she asked to join her training group four years ago.

You don't come across someone like her very often, and I've coached a lot of people in the last 15 to 20 years. Natasha

part of her achievements since she began competing for Britain at senior level at the age of 15. However, unlike her height, her powerful build and her long legs, it is not something she was born with.

She recalls competing in the AAA Under-20 Championships for the first time, when she was given a message from one of the other runners in the field that she did not regard her as being any competition.

"I was really, really scared." she said. "I went round asking everybody: 'Who is this girl?' It was on my mind all through the warm-up. In the end I came fourth and the girl who had sent the message was eighth. I thought to myself: I should have saved my energy and I would have done even better'.

She resolved not to let herself get similarly affected again. "I have to be in a relaxed state. Even if it is a big competition, I have to say: This is just another race. These are just peo-

Although Danvers has only just turned 18, she has already had extensive top-level competition. Last year she competed in grand prix meetings at Linz and Crystal Palace, which is just five minutes' walk from her home. She was fifth in the national trials and became the only British female athlete to win an individual medal at the European Junior Championships with silver in the 100m hurdles.



Natasha Danvers: "If you don't believe in yourself, you are fighting a losing battle"

duce her best high-hurdles time from 13.45sec to around 13.20, but it is at 400m hurdles where Danvers is likely to make her greatest impact. She is already he British record holder for 300m hurdles, with 41.99sec.

"She's running faster than Sally Gunnell did at the same Vernon said, "Hopefully she will emulate Sally. Natasha has got a very long stride - she finds the hurdles in the 100m close together even now. And she can hurdle with either leg, which is something you must be able to do if you want to be good at 400m hurdles."

Danvers was encouraged to

This season she intends to re- start in athletics by both parents. Advanced Science at Bromley who were athletes in their own right. Her mother, Dorrett, was a high jumper and runner for Croydon Harriers, and her father, Donald, was a highly ac-complished high hurdler for

Herne Hill. She often bumps into people now who tell her about her dad, and how good he might have become had circumstances been different. "Back then it was quite hard for black kids to succeed in athletics," she said. "He didn't have the support that I have had.

His daughter is living in another world. When she finishes her BTech course in

College this summer, she has the option of taking up an ath-

If she takes up the place, she plans to develop the other maor areas of interest in her life, namely modelling - she is already on the books of the Boss agency for work on an Olympic catalogue - and music. Danvers has already made demonstration tapes of songs written by herself and recorded with a group of friends.

letics scholarship at a prestigious

American university

But Danvers has not got to this point in her career without being single-minded, albeit in her consciously relaxed fashion.

Photograph: David Ashdown

twisted but logical way," she said. Some people might think it is arrogance, but it is what works for me. If you don't believe in yourself, you are fighting a losing battle.

vernon sees a lot of herself in Danvers. "When I was competing for Great Britain a lot of people were satisfied just to make the team, but I wanted to win as well. I think Natasha and I are the same in that respect. She has got a lot of work to

do, and I am holding her back at the moment because she has only just turned 18. But she has got plenty of time. I know she will be world class.

Shaw inspires the humiliation of Italy

Hockey

BILL COLWILL

Great Britain

Great Britain settled after a slow start to beat Italy convincingly in the first of two Test matches at the Amsicora Stadium in Cagliari, Sardinia, yesterday. Forcing the Italians into de-

fence, Britain never looked back after a 16th-minute penal-ty corner goal from Calum Giles. Seven minutes later Nick Thompson and Jason Laslett combined well to set up the secand for Rob Thompson before the interval.

In a clinical, well-drilled second-half performance, John Shaw scored the first of his two cracking goals after 50 minutes with the British captain, Laslett, marking his 150th international appearance with a goal three minutes later.

Jon Wyatt claimed his first international goal in a mêlée at a penalty corner a few minutes later, with Shaw completing the scoring from the edge of the circle with a lofted shot seven minutes from time.

A delighted British coach, David Whitaker, said after the game: "We were slow to start but we showed patience, got a good return from within the 25 yard area."

STALY: H Rayra; R Gad J Dallari, A Apestori; S l Dallari, A Apesion; S Berlin, G-P Lanzano A Raggio; F Dubos, S Herida, G-L Cirill. Sub sittorias used: G Baccii, H Lanzano, L Del lo- Nonaghe, A Leone

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McKinney ready to shoot down Comets

Basketball DUNCAN HOOPER

Ian McKinney's first two shots as an international this week were alongside England colleague three-pointers and steered England to a 76-74 win in Denmark on Wednesday night. Tomorrow he turns his sights on Newcastle Comets as the Budweiser league champions, Sheffield Sharks, try to stay in touch with

the leaders, London Towers. Frustratingly for England's coach, Laszlo Nemeth, McKinnev cannot help solve the national team's long-range shooting weakness when they line up against Russia in this season's fifth and final European Championship semi-final round eame in Moscow pext month. McKinney is ineligible, not having been in the original list of 22 players named at the

start of the season, and was called up for the Danish trip at the last minute, to replace Birmingham's Stedroy Baker. Tomorrow, McKinney plays

Roger Huggins, who won the Budweiser player of the month award for December for his role in Sheffield's 5-1 run during the month. Huggins averaged 19 points and nine rebounds, shootng 53 per cent from the field.

London Towers' Kevin Cadle won the coach of the month award after his chib's seven-win unbroken run during December,

part of a current 10-0 streak. Tonight, London are away to Worthing Bears in a rehearsal for next Saturday's League Trophy final at Birmingham. Worthing have problems with their Americans: Derick Plair has an injured tendon while Steve Paci's form has put his position under threat.

Questions of Sport

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If you would like to double your chances of winning, get the Independent On Sunday tomorrow and collect a second card.

THE INDEPENDENT

Today we are playing the section of the card dated Saturday 6 January. Below are three sporting questions, each with three possible answers coded as A, B and C. Scratch off your answer to Question One; either A,B or C in the Q1 column then repeat for Q2 and Q3.

THE OUESTIONS the newly built Riverside Stadium? A: Newcastle B: Middlesbrough

C: Hartlebook 02 Which derts player is known as The Crafty B. Phil Taylor C. Enc Bristow

his verbel outbursts at an un year's Wimbledon?

2. No purchase necessary. Cards are freely available from newsagants or by sending a large see to: independent Questions of Sport Card Request. PO Box 41. Blackburn X, BB2 6AG. One card per request.

2. The prizes for each game will be awarded to the player or players making a successful claim.

3. All claims are subject to scrutiny and cards must be interested to clidible for a critic Cards with notifing. be intact to be eligible for a prize. Cards with printing 4. Winners must agree to the publication of their names and photographs in The Independent and The Independent On Sunday.

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If you reveal office (lie repair less expositions on any one day, you win that announ.

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How to CLAM

How to CLAM

How to CLAM

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Informs of £10 or under, DC NOT PHONE Take
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60, Burnley, 8810-1SH. 5. Should more prizes be claimed than are available in any phize category, for any reason, a simple draw. will take place for the prize. will take place for the press.

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7. The Editors' decisions are final in all matters relating to the games. No correspondence can be-

8. Newspaper Publishing pic reserve the right to stop— the game at any time and change the conditions.

TOUR JUDGEMENTS

England's winners and losers in the Test series against South Africa

<u>Winners</u>

minic Cork

Peter **Martin**

Still, and increasingly initiatingly, no closer to winning over the doubters. Proved to be one of many "one imaings in the series" players with a brilliant century in first Test – and absolutely nothing of note afterwards.

Robin Smith
Gussy, strong, determined, technically deficient. Nothing new
there: England's most consistent bassman apart from the captain – not that that is saying much.

Commendably charpy, but neither quick enough nor a big enough swinger of the ball to get regular Test wickets without assis-

Waited patiently for his chance. Did and said all the right things until his hamstring let him down.

All you could tell from his one Test was that he moves a lot

Indomitable as a batsman until sheer wearness told in last

three innings. When he talks so, almost inevitably, does he seam. Growing in invention as a captain. What he really thinks of those around him would make interesting reading.

Excellent answer to those who thought he was flattered by his instant success last summer. Head and shoulders England's bast bowler. Second only to his slapper in cussed competitiveness.

At lest his wicket-keeping lived up to the extravagant billing it has enjoyed for the last 10 years - simple, classic and britiant. Annoyed every South African and delighted every Englishmen in equal measure with his quirty batting.

Not a good first-spell bowler (unless your name is Andrew Hud-son). Nevertheless, showed resillence, parsimony, swing and

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Atherton disappointed but not dejected

England's captain reflects on a tense and tough series lost in one torrid day. Robert Winder reports from Cape Town

ngland's helter-skelter de-Newlands was certainly a blow for the 5,000 or more fans who had flown out from England to watch the climax of the series. Cape Town was to this tour what Barbados was to the last series in the Caribbean - a fanfare to little England in the land of palm-tree sunshine, The Barmy Army yomped to the Cape with their banners, and Newlands was draped with touching tributes to faraway places: Preston, Hornsey, Buxton, Stevenage, Redcar, the Builders' Arms, and, of course, Manchester United. Someone even waved a flag for Cambridge University - perhaps the skipper had friends in town.

After the match, Michael Atherton was disappointed but not dejected. On a hotel sofa the morning after South Africa had. as it were, enforced the rest day, he reflected on the tour with a little more resolve than most of his batsmen had shown in the previous few days. "Well, we series. "He's a top-class bowler. came here to win the Test series," he said. "And we've not done that. And in the end we any side in the world, but he's probably didn't deserve to win not vet a No 6 batsman." this series because we never got a match. But I was happy with though we didn't play quite at

our best, we were competitive." Competitive might not seem trouncing but the Newlands Test Jacques Kallis, it is people barewas a bizarre match in a halting series that When it comes to never - partly he-

two games were storms - quite ground, Russell's was an unlikely

two entire innings were lost to rain, and a tribute to the unceasingly sprightly bowling of Dominic Cork. But when it comes to batting slides there are few teams that can hold a candle to England, and even by their standards this one was a beauty. For the second time in succession, they were blown away in only a few blinks of an eye. At one point, after Hick's dismissal,

four wickets fell for two runs. "It'll look as though we weren't in this last match," said Atherton. We lost by 10 wickets, hich sounds like a pretty good stuffing. But there were times when I thought we'd win. When we had them 160 something for 9 in the first innings I thought we were favourites, and then again in the final afternoon when Hick and Thorpe were hatting). I felt that anything over 150 South Africa would be

touchy about," When England lose, the nation always looks for someone to blame but, unlike the end of last winter's tour of Australia when Atherton expressed some dismay about the side selected to play for him, yesterday he had no regrets. "You can always look back," he said, "and say you should have brought him or him. But I still think we brought the best team. What do you do? Say, well, we've lost to South Africa so we have to go and dismantle the side? Where would that get you? We believe we've got the best players here."

Until the final match, Atherton's own performances remained steadier than anyone had a right to expect, but no

feat in the final Test at low suit. Hick began with a booming century in Pretoria that was obliterated by the downpour, but no one else made three figures. Atherton, however, refused to attribute any of this to the excellence of the opposition. "They batted better as a unit and got runs down the order." he admitted. "But they haven't really got anyone who takes the game away from you. It's hard getting in, because they do have pace, but after that they don't do a lot with the ball. It's not due to the South Africans that we've not got the runs, it's down to us."

South Africa are, however, a tough side. No one objected when Allan Donald was named man of the series - although Atherton himself might have. In Brian McMillan they have, in Botham's view, the best allrounder in the world "by a country mile". The nearest England can do is Dominic Cork, who had another spectacular and he had a fantastic tour. Atherton added. "He'd get into

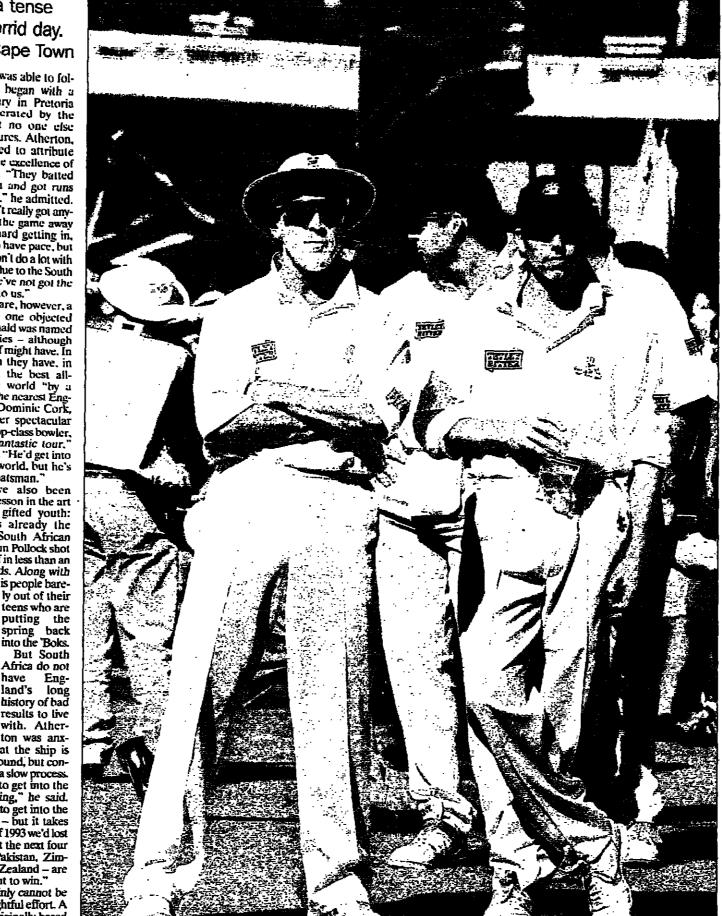
England have also been ourselves into a position to win taught a bitter lesson in the art a match. But I was happy with of introducing gifted youth: our general attitude. Even Paul Adams is already the poster boy of South African cricket, and Shaun Pollock shot England's tail off in less than an quite the word for a 10-wicket hour at Newlands. Along with

teens who are putting the spring back into the Boks. cause the first batting collapses But South washed away by there are few teams Africa do not have Enggot off the that can hold a land's long history of bad new wicket- candle to England' keeping record results to live with. Ather-

ton was anxachievement in a series in which ious to insist that the ship is indeed coming round, but conceded that it was a slow process. "First we've got to get into the habit of not losing," he said.
"Then we've got to get into the habit of winning – but it takes time. At the end of 1993 we'd lost nine out of 10 but the next four series - India, Pakistan, Zimbabwe and New Zealand - are all series we ought to win."

England certainly cannot be faltered for thoughtful effort. A bowling attack originally based on the hope that Darren Gough and Devon Malcolm would send the ball flying past South African noses was defeated by the poor bowlers, and the generally slow pitches. So they switched to an approach based on swing which would have worked if England had posted some runs of their own. But the statistics tell their own story, and England, alas, remain poor tourists. "I don't know why," Atherton said, "but it tends to be harder work to bowl sides out abroad. It's not been a bad tour for injuries, but we have lost Gough, flott and Illingworth. So far as Goughie goes. I'd just like to see him have

an injury-free summer." So, after one day (and several wheels) off, the show goes on. Today England play a hastily arranged day-night filler against Western Province. "Yes, I'll be there," Atherton said with a grin. "Fresh as a daisy and raring to go." Judging from the way wickets fell as the series raced to its abbreviated close, his first task might be to make sure that England stick it out at least until the floodlights light up.



	N.		7	i V	т. Ст.			TATES T AND	T	οU	R A	VE	R A	G-E	S	
England Test batti	ing							South Africa Test batting								
	A I	NO	Runs	HS	100	50	Av	M	l	NO	Runs	HS :	100	50		
M A Atherton	5 8	1	390	185*	1	2	55.71	D J Cullinan5	6	0	307	91	0	4	51.1	
G A Hick	5 8	2	293	141	1	1	48.83	G Kirsten5	7	1	303	110	. 1	2	50.5	
R A Smith5	5 7	0	254	66	0	2	36.28	B M McMillan5	6	1	224	100±	1	0	44.8	
A J Stewart5	58	٥	235	81	0	1	29.37	D J Richardson5	6	ī	168	84	Ō	2	33.6	
R C Russell5	7	2	140	50*	0	1	28.00	J N Rhodes5	6	ā	165	57	ā	1	27.5	
G P Thorpe	58	1	184	59	0	1	26.28	S M Pollock5	6	ĭ	133	36*	ñ	ō	26.6	
J E R Gallian1	. 2	0	42	28	0	0	21.00	A A Donald5	6	হ	68	32	ň	ň	22.6	
R K Illingworth3		0	28	28	0	0	14.00	A C Hudson5	ž	1	124	45	ŏ	ñ	20.6	
D & Cork5	6	1	69	23*	0	0	13.80	W J Cronie5	6	<u></u>	113	48	×	ň	18.8	
M Watkinson1		0	11	11	0	Ō	5.50		9	4	29	29	×	ň	14.5	
A R C Fraser3	4	2	10	5*	0	O	5.00	P R Adams2	2	-		10*	×	ň	12.0	
M R Ramprakash2	: 3	0	13	9	0	0	4.33	M W Pringle1	-	7	12		Ň	×	7.5	
P J Martin3	3	0	13	9	0	0	4.33	C E Eksteen1	2	Ų	15	13	ŭ	v		
D E Maicolm2	3	2	1	1	0	0	1.00	C R Matthews3	3	0	20	1 <u>5</u>	ō	Ō	6.6	
D Gongb2	2	0	2	2	0	0	1.00	J H Kalīīs2	2	0	8		Q	Ü	4.0	
J P Crawley1	. 0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	B N Schultz1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	
M C Bott	1	1	0	0*	0	0	0.00	* denotes not out								

England Test b	owling							
-	Overs	M	Runs	Wkt	s Av	5W	107	V BE
J Martin	105.0	37	218	11	19.81	0	Ð	4-60
K Blingworth		27	187	9	20.77	0	O	3-37
) G Cork		48	485	19	25.52	1	a	5-84
4 Watkinson		3	59	2	29.50	٥	0	2.35
# C Bott		10	130	4	32.50	0	0	3-48
E Malcolin		13	195	6	32.50	0	0	4-6:
R C Fraser		21	187	4	46.75	0	0	3-84
A Hick		5	117	1	117.00	0	0	1-35
E R Gallian	2.0	0	6	0	_	0	0	-
Gough		4	112	0	-	0	Q	-
Vi R Ramprakash		0	19	0	-	0	Q	-

	M	l	NO!	Runs	HS 1	A		
D J Cullinan	5	6	0	307	91	0	4	51_16
G Kirsten		7	1	303	110	. 1	2	50.50
B M McMillian	5	6	1	224	100*	1	0	44.80
D J Richardson		6	1	168	84	0	2	33.60
J N Rhodes		6	0	165	57	0	1	27.50
S M Pollock		6	1	133	36*	0	0	26.60
A A Donald		6	3	68	32	Ō	Ó	22.66
A C Hudson		7	ī	124	45	Ō	0	20.66
W J Cronje			ō	113	48	Ō	0	18.83
P R Adams	2	6 3	ĭ	29	29	Ō	0	14.50
M W Pringle		2	1	12	10*	0	0	12.00
C E Eksteen		2	0	15	13	0	0	7.50
C R Matthews		3	0	20	15	0	0	6.66
J H Kalītis		2	0	8	7	0	0	4.00
B N Schuttz		0	0	Ō	0	Ó	0	0.00
* denotes not out								
South Africa To	est bo	viin	g					
	Outer	Na Ì	_ p.,	ne Wk	te Au	5W	/ 1	OW/ BE

Photograph: Allsport

or ions that the								
South Africa T	est bo	vling						
	Overs	М	Runs	Wkt	ts Av	5W	10	w BB
S M Pollock	149.5	44	377	16	23.56	1	0	5-32
A A Donald	173.5	45	497	19	26.15	1	0	5-46
P R Adams			231	8	28.87	0	0	3-75
C E Eksteen		25	88	3	29.33	0	0	3-12
B M McMillan		30	247	8	30.87	0	0	3-50
C R Matthews		35	165	4	41.25	0	0	3-31
B N Schultz	16.0	5	47	1	47.00	0	0	1-47
M W Pringle	40.0	.9	98	2	49.00	0	0	1-46
W J Cronje	16.0	11	16	0	-	0	0	0-0
J H Kallis		2	2	0	-	0	0	0-0
G Kirsten	6.0	4	2	0	-	0	0	0-0

	V 1 200 and Pronouncement	10	_	103	110	_	~	-
	M A Atherton9	15	2	587	185*	1	5	4
	G P Thorpe9	14	4	415	131*	1	2	4
	G A Hick10	14	2	456	141	ī	2	3
	D E Malcolm5	6	4	62	48*	Ō	ō	3
,	D G Cork7	8	2	179	67*	Õ	ī	2
•	R K Blingworth8	6	2	112	57*	ō	ī	2
	R A Smith11	16	ō	401	66	ŏ	Ž	2
•	M R Ramprakash5	8	ŏ	183	70	ŏ	ī	2
•	JER Galfian2	ž	Ŏ	45	28	ŏ	õ	ī
1	M Watkinson5	7	ō	65	26	ŏ	ō	
	M C Bott7	5	š	15	_8	ō	ŏ	
	A R C Fraser5	ž	ž	36	15	ŏ	ŏ	
	D Gough5	6	ō	42	26	ō	ŏ	
	P J Martin7	6	ĭ	34	13*	ŏ	ŏ	
	* denotes not out	_	_	•		•	•	
	England tour bowling	<u> </u>						
	Overs	M	Ru	ns Wk	ts Av	5W	10	w
	M C Bott149,3		42		19.40	2	ō	
	D G Cork237.5	54	62		21.62	2	ŏ	i
	R K Wingworth239.0		52		24.95	ī	ŏ	- (
		-	~-			_	•	

5 90	00000	0000		B N Schurz M W Pringle W J Cronje J H Kallis G Kirsten	40.0 16.0 4.0	9 11 2 4	98 16 2 2	2000	49.00 - - - -	00000	0000	1-46 0-0 0-0 0-0	M R Ramprakash16.0 D E Malcolm129.0 G A Hick65.4 J E R Gallian7.0 G P Thorpe4.0	3 24 8 0	
K	Œ	ΝĎ	F I	XTURE	GUIDE										

THIRD DIVISION

Arbroath v Albion Rovers

TENNENT'S SCOTTISH CUP

Ayr v Ross County...... Berwick v Annan (2.15)...

Deveronvale v Keith ... Fortar v Lossi

56 Montrose y cownenceson
57 Queen of South y Queen's Park
— Spantans y East Pile (2.0)
58 Stirling y Alloa
— Whitehill y Fraserburgh (2.15)

Clyde v Brechin.

Tomorrow

3.0 unless stated

FA CUP THIRD ROUND

Derby v Leeds (1.0)

TENNENT'S SCOTTISH CUP

Everton v Stockport.

SECOND ROUND

D GOOR!! "	00.4	70	203	9	31
M Watkinson		38	406	11	36.
ARC Fraser		32	328	8	41
M R Ramprakash.		3	44	ī	44
D E Malcolm		24	451	9	50.
G A Hick		3.	165		55.
JER Gallian		ō	25	ŏ	
		-	==	Ξ	

0:	vers M	Runs	; Wk	ts Av	5W	101	W BB
C Bott14	19.3 41	427	22	19.40	2	٥	6-89
3 Cork23	37.5 54	627	29	21.62	2	Ō	5-48
Cliffngworth23	39.0 71	524	21	24.95	1	0	6-76
Martin16	37.2 55	407	16	25.43	0	Ō	4-76
Sough88		283	9	31.44	Ó	Ō	3-30
Watkinson14			11	36.90	0	Ō	3-38
? C Fraser13		328	8	41.00	0	0	3.49
R Ramprakash16	S 0.6	44	1	44.00	0	0	1-7
Malcolm12	29.0 24	451	9	50.11	0	0	4-62
\ Hick65	5,4 8	165	3	55.00	Ō	Ď	2.34
R Gallian7.	0 0	25	Ō	-	Ō	Ŏ	_
Thorpe4.	0 1	15	Ò	-	Ō	Ŏ	-

TODAY

Football

Matches not on pools coupons;
3.0 unless stated
ICS LEAGUE Premier Division: Bishop's
Stortford v Yeovit; Cherusey v Yeoding, Dutwith v Grays, Enfield v Molessey, Haves v Bromley; Hendon v Carsharton; Purfleet v
Kingsonian; Sa Abaris v Harrow Borough; Sufcon Ilid v Boreham Wood; Walton & Hersham
v Ayfesbury; Worming v Hischin. First Divitsion: Abingdon Town v Usbridge; Aldershot
Town v Wembley; Barton Ravers v Tooting &
Mitcham; Billencay v Heybridge Swifts: Boghor Regs v Berkhamsted; Chesham v Wokrigiam; Leyton Perinant v Bartong; Ruslin
Manor v Ordord City; Staines v Basingstoke;
Tharnev Martow; Whyteleafe v Madderhead.
Second Division: Bansteed v Chatfors St Peter; Carwey Island v Hampton; Ediyare v
Wirenthos; Egham v Cheshant: Hamel Hempstead v Croydon; Hungerford v Dorking, Metropolitan Poice v Cotier Rove; Tibury v
Grachneit; Ware v Bedford. Third Divisions
Cambarley v Hetford; Capton v Harrisett; Har-Bracknett, Ware v Beardon, Jimms Damber-Camberleyv Hestford, Clapton v Harefield, Har-Tow v Epsorn & Evell, Hornstunch, v Cover, Kingsbunyv Aveley, Legtino of v East Thursock, Lewes v Tring, Northwood v East Thursock, Southall v Wealdstone; Windson & Eion v

UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Bam-UNBOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Bamber Bridge v Garsborough; Bishop Auchland v Drojssten; Colwyn Bay v Frieduy; Emley v Chorley; Gussley v Witton; Hyde v Accington Stanley; Knowsley v Beston Lin; Leek v Barton; Manne v Blyth Scortans; Metock v Wirsford; Spannymor v Busen, First Division: Excusood Town v Nemerfield; Farsky Celler v Ashton Uti, Gretna v Athenton Ut; Hartington Town v Radcliffe Borough; Landaster v Coron Ashton; Leeft v Bradford Park Averus; Warrington v Great Harvood; Whitey Bay v Feerwood; Workington v Atheton; Worksop v Congreton.

SOP v Congistori.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Premier Division:
Badock v Atherstone; Chehenham v Chehrsford; Craiding v Buron; Dorchesser v Hastings:
Gessley Rouers v Worcester; Halestoven Town
v Satisbury; Reistori v Cambridge City; Merthyr
Voll v Burbury Town; Stefand Olivision: Bison v Granthant: Buckingham Town v King's
tem: Corby v Stouthidge; Dudley v Solihult:
Eyesham v Paget Ranges; Handley Town v
Tameonth; Leicester Utt v Reducin; Moor
Green v Raang Club Warwick; Nuneaton Bor
ough v Bury Town; Southern Division: Branpee v Vate; Erith & Belvedere v Weymouth;

Fareham v Clevedorr, Fisher v Troutnidge; Fleet v Watterlooviller, Forest Green Rovers v Bash-ley, Havent v Ashford; Margate v Poole; Sk-tinghoume v Cinderford; Torbridge v Witney; Weston-super-Mare v Newport JoW. Weston-Super-Made V receptor, Lov.
MITERI INK EXPIRESS MEDIAND ALLIANCE:
Biokenali v West Midlantis Police; Boldmare
v Willenhalt; Hinddey Athletic v Rushalt; Old-bury v Bolehalt; Sandwell v Pershare; Shep-shed v Rocester; Shufnal v Kuypersiey;
Sandrad v Rocester; Shufnal v Kuypersiey;

wirestroni EAD KENT LEAGUE First Divisions Carterbury v Finersham. Chatham v Conntinat; Cray Wenderers v Themesmead (2.15; Deal v Winstable (2.15); Furness v Crockenhill (2.15); Grenwich v Dardord (2.15); Herne Bay v Ramsgate; Hythe v Folkestone; Sheopey v Turbridge Weits; Beckenham v Stade Green. WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE First Division:

UNIVET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE FIRST DI-

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Pre-NORTHERN COUNTYS EAST LEAGUE Pre-mier Division: Amod v Thaddey, Ashfield v Ossett Town; Glasshoughun Welfare v Brigg Hallam v North Femby, Hatfield Main v Mak-by; Goole v Sheffield; Osset Albuon v Huck-Stattle Division

NORTH WEST COUNTYES LEAGUE First DI-Cirtheroe v Skelmersdale; Eastwood Hanley v Trafford; Fiddon v Rossendale; Mossley v Boo-Trafford; Pottor V Russchlade; Persith v New-de; Nardanch v Holker Old Boys; Persith v New-castle Town; Saldard v Danken.

casue rown, search v Leaver.
JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier DM-sions Cornard v Caszon, Feliastone v Wishert; Hareful v Schart, March v Tiptree, Newtrartest v Lovestoft; Sudbury Town v Halstead; Sudbury Wanderers v Hadleigh; Watton v HEREWARD UNITED COUNTRES LEAGUE

HEREWARD UNITED COUNTRES LEAGUE Premier Division: Bourne v Porton; Holbeach v Long Bueldy; Newport Pagnel v Boston Tour-Raunds v Desborough; St Neots v Northamp-ton Spencer; Spatrang v Wooden; Standard v Kempston; St. Corby v Bynesbury; Stotlodo GREAT MILLS LEAGUE Premier Div Brsingon v Ood Down; Chipperham v Cesture; Empre v Frone; Paulion v Bansza; le; Mangossield v Tomegion; Taurion v Calne;

Today's pools check

* denotes not out

3.0 unless stated FA CLIP THERD ROUND

(at Villa Park, Birmingham) 10 Huddersfield v Blackpool L3 Liverpool v Rochdale

17 Notts County v Middlesbrough 18 Peterborough v Wresham 19 Plymouth v Coventry 20 Reading v Gillingham

First Division: Sedington Temers v Billingham Synthoma; Consett v Dumam; Crook v Multion; Dunston v Peterlee, Ferrytal v Chester le Street, Suisborough v Tow Laier, RTM, Newcastle v What-by, Shadon v Eppleton; Streicon v Seaham; Wilson v externed v Whetham MIRNOFF RESELENGUE Pressier Divisions

Sangor v Portadorn; Cafonadle v Ards; Cur-saders v Giernozar; Glenavor v Linfeld, First Division: Ballyclare Comraoes v Newry, Bal-ymena v Carnot: Rangers; Distriber v Larne; Omagn v Colerame.)magn v Coletaine. Press and nournal highland league: Ruchie Truste v Fores Medianus: Cole Ranges v Wick Academy: For Walliam v Eigh (1,30): Huntly v Brora Rangers; Nam County v Peterhead; Ruches v Coornacuttin. LEAGUE OF WALES: Aten Litto v Finyl, Coor-

LEAGUE OF MALES AGE STORY CONTROL OF SET YEAR A STORY CONTROL CONTROL OF SET OF BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND Premier Division: Stage Rovers v Duridak (7.30). FROENDLY: Welling v Arsenal XI.

THERD DIVISION

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHEELD NORTHERN QUARTER-FINAL GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE 32 Bromsgrove v Altrinchem ...
33 Dover v Telford

Rugby Union

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: United States vire-land (5.0) (of University of Adams); italy v Scot-land A (1.30) (of Rect).

UNDER-21 INTERNATIONAL: Holy U-21 v Scorland U-21 (10.30) (at Retl).

Scorland U-21 (10.30) rst Rett).
COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP National League Ones Bath v Lecester (2.15);
Glouester v Niest Hartlepoot (3.0); Hartequins v Birstot (3.0); Sale v Omel (2.0); Saracans v Wasps (2.15). National League Twee Backhestin v Bedford (3.0); London Issh v Wasprico (3.0); London Scottish v Moserico (3.0); London Scottish v Mosery (3.0); Necessite v Wokefield (3.0); Northampton v Notungham (3.0), National League Times: Morley v Rotterham (3.0); Olly v Coventry (2.15); Resting v Richmond (2.15); Rossyn Park v Fydor; Rugy v Harogate (3.0), National League Foor: Asponia v Pyrrouth (2.0); Ciffor (1.0)

2.30 unless stated ·

21 Stoke v Nottingham Fores - Swindon v Woking franmere v QPR

38 Northwich v Bath . ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE 42 Cheitenham v Cheimsford 27 Barnet v Preston 28 Bury v Doncaster 29 Cambridge Utd v Chester BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE 30 Cardiff v Levton Orient...

46 Fatherk v Rangers Hartiepool v Scarborough ...
 31. Mansfield v Exeter..... 47 Partick v Hearts FERST DIVISION 49 Airdne v MortonPo 50 Clydebank v Dundae Utd ...

Helsens v Watsalt; London Welsh v Exster (2.15). Mational League Five North: Broughton Park v Stourbridge: Uerfield v Kendal (2.15); Preston Gesstroppers Worcester (2.15); Sheffield v Munangton Park (2.15); Sheffield v Munanston; Wharfedele v Stoke. Netbenal League Five South: Camberley v Askeans (2.15); Heriley v High Wycombe; Met Polsce v Bary Hig (3.0); North Helsheim (2.15); Tatisard v Lydney; Weston-super-More v Chelterham (3.0). HEMIEDEN NATIONAL LEAGUE First Division: Aberavon v Swansea; Abertillery v Bridgend; Cardiff v Danelit; Ebbw Vale v Treorchy; New-bridge v Neath; Newbort v Ponsyonds, Sec-ond Division: Caerphilly v Cross Keys; Llandovery v Pontypod; Llanharan v Ystradg-yrtias; Maesteg v Abercynon; South Wales Po-ice v Bonymaen; Tenby Utd v Durvent. tice v Bonymaen; Tenby Uto v Dunvant.

SCOTTISH TENNENT'S REGIONAL LEAGUE
(2.0) East One: Begar v Edinburgh Whois;
Curne v Haddengton; Preston Lodge v
Bonseymum: Watsoniers v Mussebburgh,
East Two: Edinburgh Acads v Gengemouth;
Gordomans v Corstorphine; Kirkcaldy v
Hend's PS Steman's Mel EP v Dunde HSPP.
South: Gala v Peebles; Hannck v Melrose;

Jed-Forest v Kelso; Langholm v Seikirk. West: Ayr v Glasgow Acads; G H N v West of Scot-land; Glasgow Southern v String County; Wig-townshire v Klimamock. CLUB MATCH: Birmingham Solinul v Kenil

UNDER-18 INTERNATIONAL: Wales v England (Carolf 3.30). DTZ INDOOR TOURNAMENT (Wyre Forest 572 NODOR JOURNAMENT (Myre Forest Glades, Kidderminster 9.30-8.0) Pool & Harborne, Dta Travellers (N America), Oto Loughtonians, Pool B: Buccaneers (Netmer-lands), Frobrands, East Grietzed, Pool C: Northop Hall, Mendeshill, Stoupport, Pool D: MIM, Hull, Barford Tigers.

WOMEN'S INDOOR NATIONAL LEAGUE WOMEN'S INDIOUR MATARIAL LEADUR Second Division (Cheltenham Ladles' College): Ealing v Emoush (10.0); St Albars v Dulwich (10.50); Sevenoaks v St Austell (11.40); Braciford Swittenbank v Esing (12.30); Emouth v S. Albars (1.30); Dulwich v Sevenoaks (2.10); St Austells v Braciford

Castelord v Hainar (3.30); at Heene v War-ningon; Workington v London Broncos. First bivision: Develoury Wakefield; Hudisersfeld v Feztherstone (3.30); Hull v Salford (3.15); Keighley v Wides (3.15); Rochdale v Wing-haven. Second Division: Barrow v Bramley, Carliele v Hull K R (2.0); Chorley v Hunslet; High-field v Doncaster; Leigh v York.

Rugby Union FIVE NATIONS HEINEKEN CUP FINAL: Cardiff v Tousouse (1.30) (at Arms Park.

Another whose performances told us nothing that we did not already know. Performed exactly to unremarkable expectations.

"I'm responsible," he said at the start. And so he should be. Questionable selections. Dreadful man management.

Senior batsman behind Atherton, played like a novice with his feet ded together. Irrelevant cameos until fortuitous 81 in Port Elizabeth; quite horrible in Cape Town.

Bowled with no confidence in last Test, which given his treatment by manager and bowling coach (Peter Lever), was totally predictable. Call a man an idiot often enough and he will bowl like one.

Graham Thorpe England's best player last summer, South Africa worked him out and executed their plans perfectly. Never got going at all.

None of the sensor players wanted to bat at No 3, so England threw the young player trying to forge his career in instead, and then threw him out when he falled. Further than ever from fulfilling the obvious talent.

Angus Fraser Behind Malcolm (but only just) in always being jetusoned by illing-worth, his effort in bowling England back into contention in Cape Yown was little short of magnificent, but won't get him picked any more regularly – being sent home before the one-dayers.

Has still to recover that wonderful, swaggering confidence after his injury, and was just a shadow of himself.

Mike Watkinson Why was he there?

England tour batting 108 129* 336 520 769 7 13 16

41.50 38.00 31.00 29.83 28.00 22.87

' denotes not out								
England tour	bowling							
	Overs	M	Runs	Wk	ts Av	5W	10	W
VI C Bott	149.3	41	427	22	19.40	2	٥	6
G Cork		54	627	29	21.62	2	ō	5
R K lilingworth		71	524	21	24.95	1	ō	6
J Martin		55	407	16	25.43	ō	Ō	4
Gough		18	283	9	31.44	ŏ	ŏ	3.

Hockey

Baskethall

Other sports SNOOKER: Liverpool Victoria Chanty Challenge (International Conference Centre, Birmingham.

TOMORROW Football

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRSLAND Pro-Division: Deny City v Galvey (3.15); Shel-bourne v Cork City (3.15).

STONES CENTENARY CHAMPIONSHIP:

EAST UNDER-21 COUNTY CHAMPIO

BOD (CORUM, 2-0).
BAST UNDER-21. COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP IDID LOUGHDDNARS, 10.0-4.0).
DTZ INDOOR TOURNAMENT (Wyre Forest Glades, Nucleiminster, 9.30-8.0).
WOMEN'S INDOOR NATIONAL LEAGUE Pressier Division (Docks Moors Woods, Simplegiaen): Suiton Canada Life :: Balsam Lecester (10.0); Doncaster v Chelmsford (10.50); Hightown vipswen (11.40): Slough v Sutton Canada Life (12.30): Britisam Lecester v Doncaster (1.20). Chelmsford v Hightown (2.10); Ipamich v Slough (3.0). First Division: (Harvey Hadden, Nottingram) Sheffield (12.30); Chich v Ilverpool (1.20); Wimbledon v Brachnell (11.40); Canterbury (3.0), Second Division (Chelbenham Ladles' Collegé): St Austell v Dulwich (10.0); Exmouth v Brachnel (10.50); Exmouth v Brachnel (10.50); Exmouth v Brachnel (10.50); Exmouth v Brachnel (10.50); Exmouth v Brachnel (11.40); Callegy St Austell (12.30); Dulwich (10.50); Exmouth v Brachnel (10.50); Exmouth v Brachnel (10.50); Exmouth v Brachnel (11.40); Callegy St Austell (12.30); Dulwich (11.40); Ealling v St Austell (12.30); Ealling v St Austell (12.30); Ealli enbank (10.50): Severoals v 5t Albans (11.40): Ealing v 5t Austeli (12.30); Dulwich v Exmouth (1.20): Bradford Swithenbank v Severoals (2.10); St Albans v Ealing (3.0).

Basketball BUDWESSER LEAGUE: Doncaster Parthers v Derby Storm (5.30); Sheffleid Shorks v New-castle Cornets (6.15); Leopanis v Britingham Bulletts (5.0); London Towers v Leicester

ice hockey

ICE NOCKEY
BRITISH LEAGUE Premier Division: Humberode Sanhawks v Durham Wasps (5, 45):
Newcastle Warmor, v Milton Keynes Kings (6,30); Normegham Partities v Busingstoke Bson (6,30); Sheffield Steelers v Fife Pyers (6,30); First Division: Blackburn Blackburns V Swindom Wilderse (6,0); Brackinel Bees v Tellford Tigers (5,15); Durnhess v Billingham Bombers (5,15); Manchester Storm v Pasier Prares (6,0); Peterborugh Protes v Murray-field Royals (5,30); Sohhull Barons v Meswey Bears (7,0).

Other sports

SNOOKER: Liverpool Victoria Charry Challenge (ICC, Birmingham, 12.0). Thailand Open qual-diers (Blackpool). DARTS: Embassy World Championship (Lake-cide Country Cub, Firmley Green)

Cardiff plays host to vision of a European future will be the preferred weapon. For the bludgeon to defeat the rapier will also depend pivotally

STEVE BALE

Rughy union's European Cup will improve with the passage of time - as well as with English participation, though the curmudgeonly Rugby Football Union scarcely deserves it to be so - but for now a Cardiff v Stade Toulousain final at a wellpopulated Arms Park is as good

As a prototype, the frag-mented progress made by clubs from Wales, France, Italy and Romania and provinces from Ireland in pursuit of the Heineken Cup has been a riposte to the doom-mongers, mainly at

Twickenham, who scorned it. Last Saturday's semi-finals in **Dublin and Toulouse confirmed** Leicester. Bath and others in their view that they should be taking part this season rather than next Brian Campsall, the

Yorkshireman who refereed the Leinster-Cardiff match, helpfully suggested that it was played a yard faster than anything he andles on an average weekend.

This gives a solid basis to the hope - as yet it can be no more that the European Cup will help elevate the standards of European rugby, especially once the English clubs and, assuming the Scottish RU has its way, Scottish districts enter next autumn. In fact tomorrow's final, taken

with the matches that have preceded it, is a triumph for those level of interest in Wales. who were determined to press ahead with or without the RFU.

That said, the luck has been on their side. One can imagine what the attendance would have been if Leinster, Ireland's champion province, had pre-vailed against Cardiff and, though the Welsh Rugby Union's projection of a 25,000 crowd should be believed only when that number are inside the

ground, the fact that they can talk in such terms indicates the The WRU supports its figure

by reporting that it sold 7,000 tickets on Wednesday, the first day they were on sale - despite the advance of the kick-off time to 1.30, which however inconvenient for the public is perfectly convenient for ITV schedulers. Television, lest we forget, calls the tune. Toulouse's 30-3 destruction of

Swansea compared favourably with Cardiff's 23-14 win in Dublin but, with tomorrow's weather certain to be akin to Lansdowne Road rather than the Sept-Deniers and the antagonists wholly unfamiliar with each other, the outcome is

gloriously imponderable. Cardiff are relying on the French being poor travellers, though this is based on their perception of the national team more than anything they know

of Toulouse, whose captain, the nonpareil wing Emile Ntamack, regards this match as more important than winning his own championship. Certainly when it comes to pedigree Toulouse's is every bit as illustrious as Cardiff's French champions 12 times, including in 1995 and '94. Nor do the Welsh champions boast their opponents' flam-boyance - which means the

gargantnan Cardiff pack, in-cluding seven internationals,

Jenkins injured, can reclaim the outside-half place in the Wales team to play Italy to be announced next week.

Condiff: M Rayer: S Ford, M Hall, M Ring, S Half, A Davies, A Moore; A Lewis, J Humphreys, LM Muster, J Walestord, D Jones, E Lewis, H Tayfor (capt), O Wilhams.
Touslouse: S Ouger: E Ntameth (capt), T Castrograde, P Carbonnesu, D Berty; C Deystud, J Cassibout C Castono, P Soula, C Portplen, H Micron, F Behit, H Maners, S Depages, D Lacron.

The Partners of Michael (Douglas, Co Cork).

on Adrian Davies who, with Neil

GOU

Is Chesney the English Jonah Lomu?

Saracens have a man large and fast enough to gain comparison with the best. David Llewellyn talked to him

globe have been searching for their own version of New Zealand's Jonah Lomu – so far without success. But in a corner of north London the impossible looks to have happened. There has emerged an embryonic and English - version of the giant All Black wing.

Vengeance is abroad for Tony Underwood, who suffered agony heaped on humiliation following the World Cup match when 6tt 5in. 20 stone Lomu. having run through the England right wing's inadequate defences on the pitch, then appeared in an advertisement for Pizza Hut. in which Underwood came off second best again.

But now help is at hand thanks to Saracens, who have unearthed a potential blockbuster, Kris Chesney is not only hig enough to swipe that pizza out of Lomu's massive grusp - and with impunity - he could have made it in the first place. He is a 6ft 6in chef, who weighs 17 stone. And at 21 he is still growing.

He is not far behind Lomu's bulk and looks fast enough out on the Saracens' right wing to Gourmet". However, Suracens enough for a second row."

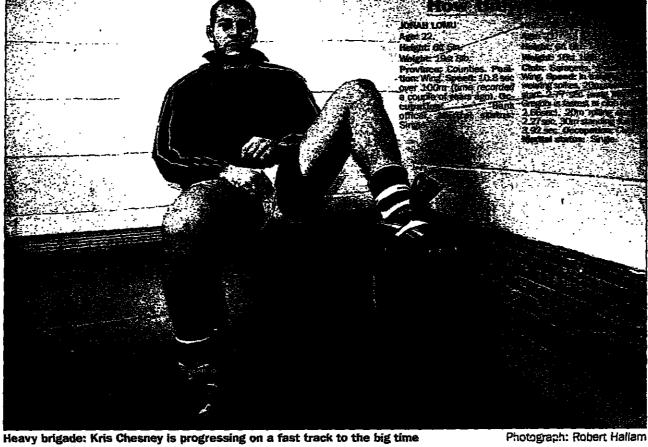
not born into rugby. In fact he notion.

ver since the World Cup has only been in the game for countries all over the something like four and a half years. His Pilkington Cup appearance against Rugby Lions ust before Christmas in which he scored two well-taken tries. was only his fourth game on the

wing.
The way Chesney tells it, his introduction to rughy was an accident. He explains: "When I was younger I played football until I got a bad knee injury. Originally I was told I would be out for about six months, it turned out to be two years. When I had just about recovered a friend took me down to Barking for fitness training. And I started throwing the ball around and within a couple of weeks I was in the Barking colts

Chesney played chiefly in the second row for the East London club with the occasional appearance in the back row. Saracens' coach. Mark Evans, explained: "He trained with us for two or three months last year while he was still playing for Barking. He was in the second row then for London Under-21s and on the bench for England Under-21s as a lock. We told him he would be a back be dubbed "the Galloping row for us because he wasn't big

Saracens are renowned for d Barking RFC - a route trodden ceding the current crop of Unlike Lomu, Chesney was Chesney there was no whimsical



Evans said: "When I saw Kris in the gym and I looked at his times. I thought he was a bit quick and had him down for an open-side. So that's where we started him in the seconds. He looked OK, but after a couple of weeks Tim Wright, the second XV coach, said that Chesney did all his best work out in

the backs." It was the first glimmerings of a change in direction. Chesney takes up the story: "I love running the ball and handling is no problem. I played a lot of basketball when I was at college.

"My pace was what conearthed when Chesney first ar-veloping back-row talent - Ben vinced them I could be switched with evading their clutches, outmoded ideology or the at home so my Mum does all need to carry that on to claim rived at Southgate from Clarke and Dean Ryan pre- out to the wing. They had seen Chesney keeps a huge paw on amateur ethos. before by Jason Leonard, the Anthony Diprose and Richard decided to give me a go. They ven like tent pegs into the I have wanted to go into proman. But no doubt he will England prop.

Hill - so their decision to try are quite impressed with my ground, they form a firm base fessional sport, he said. Luck-enjoy the occasional pizza in speed, I am up with the likes of

Pete Harries and they are

Chesney seems to have been able to take the conversion in his giant stride, although he acknowledges: "It has been a bit of a rush job. I have been putting in a lot of work in the last few weeks, especially on my lines of running, going off the left foot and the right foot. Then there's defence, the full-backs at the club have been helping me out with that, and generally all the boys are giving me a hand."

Chesney has another weapon at his disposal. His hand-off of his view of the game most would-be tackiers. Not content Jonah Lomu and seeing me they them and, as they are being drithe wingers Martin Gregory and necessary, his run to the line. way and so if I can latch on to holding it of course.

"We stuck him on the wing in a development XV against West London Institute and he scored four tries," Evans said.

We put 70-odd points on them and that was some result because we had mostly under-21s playing." Chesney clearly likes rugby life in North London. "I've really enjoyed the move. he said. "It was a big step from Barking, but I thought the time

was right for a move up. Chesney is every inch the modern rugby player and

it somehow it will be really good. I would happily give up catering.

He certainly does not have a great deal of time what with work and, well, work. "I get up at 5.30, in work by 6.30," says the son of an East End father and a German mother with a dash of Scandinavian, "back home around 4pm then it's down to the gym, or over to the track or up to the club. I am doing a lot of speed drills and running techniques because I am a bit of a jump." he said.

my meals for me. He also "Ever since I was a youngster admits to being a pie and veg ground, they form a firm base fessional sport," he said. Luck- enjoy the occasional pizza in were it not that Bath had won be the harbinger for all Ornell's from which he can relaunch, if ily for me rugby is going that future, depending on who is

Bath worried by weak front

procession through the first half of the Courage Cham-pionship that, if they forgot themselves, they could actually afford to dispense more Twelfth Night largess than is their wont during this afternoon's visit by Leicester, writes Steve

These matches are among the defining moments of any English season, yet Bath's sequence of 10 consecutive pre-Christmas wins has left them with the unlikely comfort of a four-point cushion over their perennially closest rivals. What is more, Harlequins and Wasps too have yet to come to the Georgian city.

Still, this is scarcely a time to take anything for granted. To set themselves up for the remaining eight games the Bath players were in Portugal ahead of last Saturday's game at Gloucester. though as that was postponed the run-in in fact starts here. Phil de Glanville, their captain. scarcely needs prompting to recall that at this time last year Bath were also in front.

"We had not lost by mid-January '95 but dropped eight out of a possible 14 points in the final seven games and conceded the title to Leicester," he recalled. Bath had to make do with the cup, the loss of the Courage trophy being so like losing the family silver that there has been much talk this week of recapturing what is rightfully theirs.

We should have won the title last year but we had some bad results and threw it away. John Hall, the Bath director of And despite being a chef. rugby, said. "But we've taken hesney confesses: "I still live our chances this season and we back what is ours."

sumption bordering on hubris trail Park. If successful, this will the league five times in its eight league and cup matches to be seasons (and the cup nine times played there next season.

It says everything about Bath's in the last 12). However, Bath's disrupted front row provide Leicester with a clear point of weakness to attack and in filthy conditions the leaders look unusually voluerable.

Then comes the international season. "Like all the other Division One clubs, we haven't played a league match for two months," De Glanville said. "Our [cup] win over Northampton before Christmas was very useful but we supply so many players to the international squads - eight to England for the Western Samoa match - that staying club-focused during the Five Nations takes a major

Bath's superiority at the top and the inferiority of Glou-cester and West Hartlepool at the bottom have left most of the First Division with only Europe as their target, though "only" is hardly the word when the maugural competition from which the Rugby Football Union excluded its clubs has been eved with such envy.

Gloucester and West have a chance to do each other a disservice at Kingsholm, a home win more or less settling West's fate but still leaving Gloucester at least four points behind the eighth-placed Saracens, who are at home to Wasps. Also in London, Harlequins host Bristol, a match of some significance for Bristol's Arwel Thomas given Wales's outside-half

Orrell, involved in a derby of their own at Sale; announced yesterday that they were to put a ground-sharing arrangement with Wigan into action by playagainst Leicester on 30 March four miles away across the M6 Ours? This would be pre- at the rugby league club's Cen-

WARWICK

HYPERION 12.05 Bella Sedona 12.35 Spring Saint 1.05 Shining Light 1.35 Paris Fashion 2.10 With Impunity 2.40 Woodrising 3.10 Keano 3.45 Preenka Girl GOING: Good to soft.

Right-hand course. Run-in of 150/ds.

Ricecourse south of fown on B5170, Taunton railway atmon is 2 miles awas, ADMISSION: Members & L. Padriock \$8,70; Cenre of Course \$4. CAR PARK: Centre of course \$3; rest free. SIS RACING CHARNEL

WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Benjamin Lancaster (1.35) track 210 mays from M Griffin's Merchaniot yard in Cornwell.

12.05 LEASOWES HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) £3,200 added 4YO 2m

1	I GREENSPAN (39) W Mus 11 5	.M. Richards
	AMBIDEXTROUS (IRIE) E 45500 11 0 T De	scombe (5)
UF	BOURDONNER (37) W Jerks 11 0,	.W Marston
	DEYMIAR (TRE) D Gandotto 11 6	D Leater
32	2 IN GOOD FATTH (38) 1 Ourm 11 0	D Byrne
	MORUMENT I long 11 0	G Unton
96	NESSUN DORO (16) S Mayor 11 0	M Percett
90	THREE WILD DAYS (30) 7 late 11 0	Mr.S Seiers
6	VERDE LUNA (30) D Amustroot 11 0	. S McNell
	VIZARO (REE) T WORL 11 0	.Gery Lyons
2	2 BELLA SEDONA (35) Lic. Herres 10 9	L Aspet (5)
F	F BORN TO BE WILD (44) 11 Pige 10 9	Briddender
	OUT OF THE BLUE A BOXEY 10 9	i Lodder
	SALFRELL (37) Mrs P Sy 10 9	R Marley
	TURRELL HOUSE W Museon 10 9	S Keightley
	- 15 declared -	-

BETANG: 7-2 Greenspan. 9-2 Born To Be Wild, 5-1 in Good Faith, Bulla Sedona, 6-1 Nessun Doro. 10-1 Daymiar, 12-1 Montement, 16-1 others

12.35 SHERBOURNE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,250 added 2m

HYPERION 12.15 Thick As Thieves 12.45 Tartan Gem 1.15 Opera Buff 1.45 Dancing Jack 2.15 Posen Gold

Equitack surface, left-hand sharp undelating course.

Equitack surface, left-hand sharp undelating course, and, Ling-field rules y statistics of fourtries BACCS Edentridge rules. AD-MISSION: All enclosures 50 for all meetings. CAS PARE: Club

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Note: LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Fleid Of Vision (3.20) has face

sent 270 miles by M Johnston from Modificham, N Yorks, Mac's Taxi (3.20) has been sent 270 miles by P C Haslam from Mei

12.15 BLUEBELL HANDICAP (CLASS F) (DIV

2.45 Aston Manor 3.20 Maid Welcome

LINGFIELD

ol; renumber free

SIS RACING

5-21232 PAMPILIO RRI (39) (D) G Belong 9 11 7 ... Mr A Belding (7) 41132- WERDWARD ARROW (22) (D) (8F) h Burke 10 11 5 ...

13-2 RAQUE (55) (0) P Rochers 5 11 0 5 Fox (5)
221216 MOST EQUAL (16) (0) M Ppe 6 10 12 0 Bridgenster
21P-PF5 LACKSYDARA (24) (0) MS H long's 9 10 11 Mr / Calloly (7)

Administrative Action of the American Profession of Control of Con

1.05 BURTON HILL NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) (DIV I) £5,500 2m 4f 110yds

40/25-1 POORS WOOD (52) | Gallord 9 11 4 L Aspell 1P406-5 SHONNG LIGHT (36) (8F) D Nicholson 7 11 4 D Bridgenster P WARNER'S SPORTS (22) P Hoots 7 11 4 M Richards

- 9 declared -BETTING: 7-4 State: The Kibber, 7-2 Capenutay, 5-1 Giventions, 6-1 Foots Errand, 7-1 Shining Light, 8-1 Warner's Sports, 14-1 others

1.35 BEAR HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £6,000 added 2m 4f 110yds

1 13345-0 ITS NEARLY TIME (26) (C) Miss H lingth 13 11 13 ... 21PP4-P BENJAMEN LANCASTER (26) M Griffs 12 11 6... B Festion (5) 1 PARTS FRENCH (65) (D) N Testor-Danes 5 11 4 103151 DRADGRESS (PR) (48) (D) M Pipe 5 12 3 _____ D Bridgester AUA/U-F TWO STEP RHTTHM (24) (D) J McConnoche 12 11 2 _____

9 1-41FT STOP THE WALLER (36) (b) F Murphy 7 13 1,...flag Levis (3) 10 224-P2 POWDER BOY (37) R Hodges 11 11 10 T Describe (6) 11 24-3319 MACSOOD (32) (b) 7 Makes 11 10 13 R Greene 12 23-0319 COMT D'ESTRUAL (FR (36) G Belong 6 10 11 ... B CHIPOT 13 245-125 SHARP PREPORMER (32) (8F) N Baley 7 10 7 ... A Thombon 14 74-3414 WALAM (878) (b) 1 Editor 9 10 7 ... Appel (5) 15 /24-323 RITTINGER (151) (D) 0 P Prepara 15 10 7 ... Dr P Princhand

12.45 SNOWDROP APPRENTICE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,700 added

| STAKES (CLASS F) £3,700 added | Corver (7) 5 | 103200 | DIVERN (RE) (22) | Winze 6 9 9 | Corver (7) 5 | 103200 | DIVERN (RE) (28) All Britain 5 9 6 ... A Latenaire (5 1 574002 | TARDAN BENI (RE) (28) All Britain 5 9 3 ... J Dreigh (3) 3 | ELA HERT (RE) (26) B Peerce 4 9 2 J Wildmann 2 (53253 | MST-MAN-MOU (RE) (28) B Britain 4 9 2 ... J Wildmann 2 | TARDAN BENI (RS) C James 6 8 12 ... F Lytich 6 (01400 | ELLY PLEIFPOT (RE) (48) 8 Newton 4 8 11 ... 6 Newton (5) 8 (7) VOICES NI THE SAY (551) A Newton 5 8 9 3. John Winds 9 (00000) CARCHARGE BLIE (23) (7) TARLETON 6 8 8 ... T Ashiny (3) 10 0004646 ... (ASBERTS FROULE (108) D' Wallins 4 7 13 ... James Control 1 500000 | LA BOSSETTE (RIS) (19) R lingsm 4 7 13 ... JD Domby 7 - 11 declared -

- 11 declared SETTING: 3-1 Tartan Genz, 9-2 Just Mann-Mou. 6-1 Cabebargh Blue, Devoce, 7-1 Elly Floatfoot, 8-1 Temanda, Jobber's Flade, 12-1 others.

1.15 DAFFODE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,450 added plus im 4f | 1900年日 PRISS 1.171 年7 | 1900年日 PRISS 1.171 日本 5 | 1955年日 PRISS 1.171 日本 5 | 1955年日 PRISS 1.171 日本 5 | 1955年日 PRISS 1.171 日本 6 | 1955年日 PRISS 1.171 日本 2.40 LEASOWES HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV II) £3,200 4YO 2m 1220 WOODRISING (70) (0) (8F) C Egeron 11 7 A \$ Smith
1220 WOODRISING (70) (0) (8F) C Egeron 11 7 A \$ Smith
120 WOULDINGER (49) (0) R O'Schen 11 6 D Bridgenber
8010 CHALL RE FLASH (78) MS F Sy 11 0 Siderhell
10 CALL RE FLASH (78) MS F Sy 11 0 Siderhell
11 Marphy (3)
12 Smith

Minimum weight 10st. True handicap weights: Stormy Petrel 9st 13th, The Brus

9st 8th, Clount Accord 9st. BETTING: 7-2 Paris Fashical, 9-2 Draborgie, 5-1 Some Day Soon, 7-1 Pow-der Boy, 8-1 Stump Performer, Stop The Walter, 10-1 others

2.10 BURTON HILL NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) (DIV II) £5,500 2m 4f 110yds

- 9 declared BEJTHNG: 4-5 Naisthen Lad, 3-1 Barton Santa, 5-1 With Impunity, 14-1 Stey
Sarty, 16-1 Playing Truent, 20-1 Where's Wille, 25-1 others

U CALL ME FLASH (78) MS P Sy 11 0 Stechest
O CHINA MAIL (15) N Baile; 11 0 S. Fox IS;
P HALLIJUA TIME (35) P Ratiners 11 0 S. Fox IS;
RF HEATHYARDS ROCK (65) R Holinshead 12 0 M Martin (7)
HONLY CHARMERS (DRC) W Must 11 0 M Richards
O ROCKHOR (21) (0 MT 11 0 D D) M Rechards
O NORTHERN CHARMER (21) E Aison 11 0 T Descounce (5)
O SHEPHERUS REST (16) S Melor 11 0 T Descounce (5)
OS SHEPHERUS REST (16) S Melor 11 0 Mr C Bonner (5)
FO SELVER SLEEVE (21) M Hammond 11 0 Mr C Bonner (5)
FRENC DE LA CHASSE (37) (38) D Micholson 10 9 W Marston

- 14 declared -SETTMG: 7-4 Woodrising, 5-2 Volunteer, 9-2 Highly Charming, 8-1 Bold Charlie, 12-1 Nobby North, 14-1 Reine de La Chatse, 25-1 others

3.10 BLACKMORE AMATEUR RIDERS' HAND-ICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 3m 2f

1.45 VIOLET HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,450 added 3YO 5f

2.15 COWSLIP AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,500 added 3YO 1m 2f

- 6 declared -STITNG: 5-4 Poseu Gold, 3-1 Beth Knight, 7-2 in The Band, 8-1 Highlights,

2.45 ELUERELL HANDICAP (CLASS F) (DIV II)

55022- ASTON HISMOR (RE) (260) R Harron 4 10 0 Mark Decemb (7) 7

313000 TREAM PURPLE (REC. (22) 600 T No.57 tim 8 9 12. T Acate; (7) 11 001-100 SUPERLAG (REL) (22) Andre Hermans A 9 10 . R Cochanne 10

1 346611- KRYSTAL MAX (IRE) (18) (C) (D) T D Barron 9 10

- 13 declared - Minimum weight 10st, True hardcop weights intoecastie Timing Six 116. Bashotogon 95: 50. BETING: 7-2 Nazzaro, 9-2 Misee, 5-1 Martell Boy, 11-2 Matt Reid, 6-1 Pless Gusser, 10-1 Kesse, 12-1 Diamond Fort, 14-1 others 3.45 WHITNASH HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,250 2m 4f 110yds :4131-R THE WIDGET MAN (52) (C) (D) J G 750 10 12 0 ... L Aspel (5)

P614-64 JEASSU (21) (CD) A J Vilson 13 11 5 D45-PD INDIAN (DES7 (21) N Gasebe 7 11 7 M Perrett
U001041 CHARMER'S WELL (50) (BF) G Balong 8 11 7 B CRITICAL
2335-UP VORW WELL (23) Smort Bark 10 11 6 S M Releil
0221-00 MUSICAL MOMARCH (53) (CD) 0 Shereour 10 11 4 10 500255 VASELEY (245) (D) 5 Gottos 8 11 3 ______ A 5 Se

10 500255 VASRLEV (245) (0) S Grings 8 11 3 ... A S Smith 1 44046/ DEPAR (USA) (990) S Sherwood 10 11.2 ... E Upton 11.453 PLASTIC SPACEAGE (280) (C) 10 to 13 11.2 ... F Grantism 1 3 ... SP ROSANARMO (322) W Jerk 6 11.2 ... F Resident 1 1.5542 ZAMTOON (30) (C) D NETOSON 5 11 1 ... W Marston 15 11.0903 HAPPY HORSE (NC) (24) R Hodges 9 11.1 ... T Describes (5) 10 905114 DESMOND GOLD (40), (D) Mar D Hame 8 11 1 ... F Rosand (5) 17 500-220 MOCKAVERRY (16) M Wiserson 8 11 1 ... P Crowley (7) 18 22319 CHICAGO'S BEST (85) (9) 4 Wingrow 5 11.0 ... J Ryson 19 14P-551 NORTHERN VILLAGE (16) (C) (D) S Dow 9 11.0 ... R Elbius (7) 10 F Jerk 10 M ROSANARMO (30) M ROSANARMO (3

 29 declared Minimum melgri: 20st. True handicap weights: Natingty Ser 12th. Severn Gale SCI 200-SETIBRG: 7-2 Preents Giri, 6-1 Buckhouse Boy, 8-1 Happy Horse, Dara 10-1 Zathon, 12-1 Jeasse, Vaciliev, 14-1 agters

12 000,006 DUMOND BANGLE (37) C Essy 4 7 13. - 12 declared BETTRIE: 3-1 Apolio Red, 4-1 Aston Macor, 5-1 Halbert, 6-1 Steep Jup, 71 Rocky Two, Digmond Bangle, 12-1 Separteo, 16-1 others.

3.20 LADBROKE AW TROPHY HANDICAP (QUAL-IFIER) (CLASS E) £4,500 added 71 1 420120- CRYSTAL HEIGHTS (FR) (22) (C) (D) R C Subset 8 10 0

BETTWO: 4-1 Quincii Marcia, 5-1 Rights, 11-2 Palay Grienes, 6-1 Humali Storm 7-1 Rigid of Vision, 15-2 Malei Wolcome, 8-1 Marc's Toni, 14-1 others.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK Umpire Orchard was considering. We will be picking the washe

changing his decision anyway, woman next. Yiv Anderson, Clive Lloyd, the match referee, Middlesbrough's assistant manexplains how Graham Thome was finally adjudged run out in the injury crisis.

Anybody short of Jesus Christ

It was made by the President's Box and you can't have that. Ray- wouldn't win. Bryan Cox, of the mond lilingworth on Thome's dismissal.

Once a decision is made you should not be allowed to go back on it. Thorpe, not unexpectedly, disagrees with the outcome. problem stopped him getting his I would like to see the referees in Five Nations matches get the same as the England players. Robert Horner, chairman of the referees sub-committee, wants

ager, reveals the extent of their

could coach this team and we Miami Dolphins, reacts to their play-off defeat I couldn't get up. I feit like I was stuck to the mattress. Diego

Maradona on now his cocaine daughter a glass of water. What did I feel when that final dart went in? Just relief, it's even better than sex. Phil Taylor is suitably ecstatic after winning the his men to climb aboard the gravy . WDC World Champlonship for the second successive year.

RACING RESULTS

TOWCESTER 12.20: 1. CRACK ON IG McCourt) 11-4; 2. The Grey Frier 14-1: 3. Dream Ride 5-2 fax. 18 ran. 8, 10. (P Hobbs). Total £4.20: £1.70, £3.30, £1.90. DF: £113.40. CSF: £42.43. Trat: £134.80 - part wort (pool of £132.95 camed forward to Sandown 2.30 to-

12.50; 1. WHITERONNET (Soptie Michel)
13-2; 2. Sir Crussy 14-1; 3. Lufty Deed 71. 16 ran. 11-4 feb Jameada (Sidn. 13, rit.
IC Egenon). Toter: £9.20; £1.80, £4.10,
£2.20, £10.30, DF: £86.20, CSF; £1.01.71.
Treast £635.00. Trot £98.40.

1.20: 1. TURNING TROX (A Maguire) 7-2; 2. Quart Melody 7-4 far; 3. Steeple Jack 15-1, 10 ras. 5, 13, 10 Netholsoni, Totac 15:80; 13:50, 52:00, 15:30, DF:18, 70, CSF £10.60, Tneast: £84.87, Trig. £51.40. £10.60, Theast £84.87, The £51.40.

1.50; 1. DANBYS GORSE (# Owyer) 6612. Servel 15-8 fay; 2. Court Joker 3-1.
9 ran. 2, 9. IJ Enferson). Toke: £43.30; £4.90, £1.20, £1.50. DF: £47.80. GSF: £486.01. NRs: kind Prince, Lord Frederick, The £27.70.

2.20; 1. £000TS LADY (W Marston) 114 fay; 2. Stear Stephanie 11.2; 3. Beauchamp Grace 9-2. 13 rsn. 4, 20. (Mar / Prinant). Toke: £4.30; £1.90, £3.40, £2.20. DF: £13.00. GSF: £18.48, Tho: £1.90.

£11,90.

2.50; 1. OBAN IJ F Tidey) 5-1; 2. Gifther lists 9-2 for; 3. Tim 20-1. 15 ram. 1¼, 9. Mills H Kniga, Wantago). Tota: £5.90; £2.90; £2.20; £3.0. DF: £18.80. CSF: £28.56. Tho: £93.20, NRs: Gifdorens Lass, Junge Higmay. Mills Water Miret.

F90.20, NRs; Initiative transition of the community of th Interst £858.15. The: £797.80.

3.50: 1. Boss's Bank & Magarel 4-7 for: 2. Branky May 16-1: 3. The Proms 10-1: 17 ran. 2: 3: 10 Pachosoni, Total £1.60: £1.30. £2.60. £3.50. DF: £12.30. E5F: £1.31. MR: Hensher. Ther £191.10. Jackgot: Not wen 1000 of £5,337.31 carried forward to Sandown today).

Quadpot: £12.30. Placepat: £47.90. Place 5: £23.62. Place 6: £37.06.

NEWCASTLE 1.10: 1. FRIENDLY INNOHT IS Harding 8-1: 2. Historm Blues 9-1: 3. Fly To The End 5-1 7 ran. 13-8 fay Wird Rose of York 6th. 5, 19. U Holdson. Totac (B.70. E2-50, 12.60, DF: 632-60 CSF 161, 44. 1.40: 1. MALAWI IA S Smith 5-2 (av. 2. Mahy Bank 4-1: 3. Cool Weather 25-1: 13 ran. 4. 20. (W Sethell; Tota: 53. 30: £1.30. £1.80. El. 80. DF: £11.20. CSF: £12.80. The: £103.40.

S.40: 1. ABLE PLAYER (1 Burley 11: 1: 2. Formers (6te) 20: 1: 3. Camento 4: 1 tar; 4. Andres Cale 7: 1. 18 ran. 3. 2. (Mrs S Bramalli, Totar £10:30; £3:30, £5:30, £2:20, £1:90. Dr. £1:25:70. CSF: £207:18. Mrass: £956.70. Mrs. £504.90. Quandpot: £5:40, Placepot: £236.10. Placep 5: £36.28. Placep 6: £420.36.

SOUTHWELL

12.80: 1. RAMBO WALTER (Acr Greenes)
11-8: 2. Hawtern 5-4 fat: 3. Fasz 16-1. 9 ran.
8, 1¼ (D. Nicholis), Totas £2.70; £1.00, £1.10, £4.20. DT: £1.70, CST: £3.46, Tho: £8.90. 1.00: 1. ROMBARMATE (Mrs Mt Monts) 1.2-1; 2. Personimus 8-1; 3. Karinska 7-1. 15-tan. 5-1 far Rear On Lour. Ns. ye. 68 Bevenug. Totae: £11.20; £2.40, £2.90, £3.10. DF: £48.70. CSF: £103.84, Tricast: £671.85, Inc: £132.80.

2.30: 1. MR MORIARTY (N Carisie) 9-3: 2. Aicoomo 5-1; 3. Thatcher's Era 10-1; 4. Park Life 14-1. 16 ran. 4-1 fav Roseberry Tonome, 4. 1-4. Sewarrej. Toter 15.80; 51.70, £1.10, £2.20, £2.20, DF: £27.50. CSF: £29.1. Tricast £212.56. Tru: £72.90.

CAN in 150

2.10: 1. TOM BRODE (**Carbony) 6-4 far; 2. Bathernoch 11-4; 3. Montyman 6-1 18 ran. N. 39: 0 Howard Johnson, Teber 12-80; 61.60; 61.40; 61.40; 01: 56.10. CSF: 55.80. Ther 56.10. CSF: 55.80. Ther 56.10. CSF: 55.80. Ther 56.10. CSF: 61.80. CSF: 61.

2.00: 1. WEETMAN'S WEIGH (M Watern) 100-30: 2. First Marke 4: 1: 3. Brigamoune 10-1. 9 ran, 3-1 for Lady Eciat. No. 4. IR Hollanteedt. Toke: 23-60: £1-60. Ē1-60. Ē

CSF: £29.11 Treast: £212.56. Inv: £72.90.
a.00: L TARTAN GEM (R Cochrane) 4-1:
2 Trouthedour Song 12-1: 3. Saman 6-4 fav.
14 ran. 4. 34». (M Brittain). Tota: £3.60.
£2.10. £8.40. £1.40. £9: £50.20. CSF:
£53.37. NR: Old Provance. True £19.70.
a.30: 1. CHIMA CASTLE IJ Weaven 9-1:
2 Theorie Megic 3-1 lay: 8. Seeking Destiny 11-2. 13 ran. 12.24». (P Hastam). Tota:
£7.50: £7.00. £1.50. £1.80. DF: £18.90.
CSF: £36.63. Treast: £155.95.
Quadquet: £8.90. Placepot: £46.50.
Place Sc. £50.88. Place 8: £59.25.

sport

KING GEORGE VI CHASE: Kempton's loss is Sandown's gain as racing is finally allowed to celebrate the joys of Boxing Day

Gourmets prepare for Merry feast

GREG WOOD

Shortly before Christmas, Philip Hide, due to partner Brief Gale in the King George VI Chase on Boxing Day, was asked by the Racing Post how he rated the mare's chance. His response was that she was approaching her best form, but that the race might come a little soon. What a shame, he said, that the King George wasn't two weeks later.

Young Philip clearly has influence in some very high places. Eleven days after frost forced the abandonment of the original King George card at Kempton, the most important race of the first half of the jumps season will finally take place at Sandown this afternoon. The booze-fuelled festive rowdiness which characterises the Boxing Day meeting may be missing. but few serious racegoers will notice. Instead, spectators can enjoy, at no extra cost, an eightrace card of a quality that will be surpassed only at the Festi-

val in March. The King George too has benefited from the delay, for while Dublin Flyer is now an absentee, Master Oats, the Gold Cup winner, is now able to take his place. After his dismal performance in the Rehearsal Chase at Chepstow last month, however, the horse who won by

15 lengths pulling up at Chel-tenham 10 months ago is only the third-favourite today at 9-2 behind One Man at 5-2 and Barton Bank at 100-30.

If Master Oats wins at that sort of price - and with Charlie Swan, no less, in his saddle - little short of professional counselling will ease the distress of those who failed to back him, After all, they say you should always forgive a horse one bad run. in particular a proven

champion like Master Oats. Yet the clear conclusion of his run at Chepstow was that while he may lack nothing in desire or talent, the link between his engine and the gears is unusually fragile. Master Oats is prone to breaking blood vessels in his lungs, a problem which, even if it does not occur in every race, can make a horse understandably reluctant to fully extend himself. Until he has run up to his best once more, Master Oats cannot be backed with confidence at any price.

A similar comment applies to Barton Bank, whose competent success on his only outing this season must not obscure the memory of his complete loss of form and confidence last term. He fell at Wetherby, Kempton (when clear at the last in the King George) and Cheltenham, and Sandown's obstacles are as demanding as any.



One Man is out on his own as he leads Gordon Richards's string but faces close competition at Sandown today

There is no value in Barton Bank's price, nor in the short odds offered about One Man, whose overall form is simply that of a highly promising young chaser, rather than a worthy favourite in an exceptional field. François Doumen's candidates demand respect, but Val D'Alene wants it softer while

Algan surely cannot be as lucky again as he was 12 months ago. Brief Gale may attract support, not least in the light of Hide's comment, at around 16-1, but the bookmakers have already taken evasive action - the Sun Alliance Chase winner was a 25-1 chance on Boxing Day

morning. The rest of the outsiders are very hard to fancy, which leaves one very clear choice for punters.
MERRY GALE (nap 2.30)

was declared a certain runner

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Eskimo Nei (Haydock 1.30) **NB: Master Oats** (Sandown 2.30)

only on Wednesday, when problems with the cost and practicality of transport had been overcome, but when it comes to the return trip to Ireland, both

horse and connections should be able to travel first class. His success in the Martell Cup at great quality, considerable Aintree in April alone gives him every chance today, while at just eight years of age he has yet to reach his peak. Tough, versatile

Merry Gale is an excellent bet at around 11-2. Graham Bradley, Merry Gale's jockey, has every chance of enjoying one of the best days of his long career, since he partners the improving Suny Bay (next best 3.30) in the Mildmay/Cazalet Chase which would be the card's feature under normal circumstances. To-

and sure-footed at his fences,

performer on the level, is day's are anything but, though, among his opponents, while and almost every contest offers

promise or, generally, both. Absalom's Lady (11.55) can chasers in France before his recent move to Josh Gifford, makes the race still harder to asget the afternoon off to a good sess. It is best watched for fustart - or, more precisely, bring the morning to a profitable close - on her way to another ture reference, so too the juvenile hurdle in which Our Kris, the Triumph Hurdle run in the Champion Hurdle, favourite, takes on some very inwhile a possible opponent at teresting debutants. Cheltenham, River North, makes his debut over timber in the Tolworth Hurdle. A Group One winner on the Flat, River North comes to hurdling with just as much potential as Alder-

brook, last year's champion.

Save the cash for Major Summit (1.25) and Storm Alert (12.55), while Easy Ruck (2.00) is worth supporting to beat the ageing Miinnehoma, the 1994 Grand National winner, in Haydock's Newton Chase.

As Des Carres, one of the best



HAYDOCK

.90: Smith's Band is not the most consistent of jumpers which is a worry over these stiff tences. But Jenny Pitman's seven-year-old is improving quickly and can con-cede weight to a decent field.

1.30: Eskimo Nel can gain somo consolation for her unjucky shorthead defeat at Sandown last time She is one of the most improved horses in training and should hold off Thornton Gate and Roberty Lea. םסם

2.00: Morceli has been disap-pointing this season and the well-weighted EASY BUCK has to be the choice. Nige! Twiston-Davies has only had the horse this season but looks to have sharpened the nine-year-old into a useful sort. SANDOWN

1.55: With the hurdling of the Group-class Flat performers River North and Right Win un-proven and little between jumping types Shankar, Zephyrus and STRONG PROMISE, this is a betting medium to avoid. The selection is improving and was un lucky last time.

2.36: With One Man unproven in the highest class, Barton Bank such an unreliable jumper, Mas-ter Oats so disappointing last time, Coulton a doubtful stayer, Monsieur Le Care and Young Hustler exposed at this level, Al-gan and Val D'Alene unable to win in France and Book Of Music and Brief Gate making their seasonal debuts, the choice is MERRY GALE, who has the speed to pounce on the run-in.

3.00: HIGH PADRE is better for a year off and, although out of the handicap, can beat Flyer's Nap, a disappointment in this last year.

3.35; KALASADI can be forgiver

HAYDOCK

12.00 What's Your Story 12.30 Crown Equerry 1.00 Smith's Band 1.30 Eskimo Nel

2.00 Easy Buck 2.35 Jet Rules 3.05 Cumbrian Challeng 3.40 Buster Rob

GOING: Good to Soft. ng drop lences and run-in of two furiong Course is near junction of ASSO and MG. Newton railway station 2m. ADMISSION:
County Stand 515: Taxtersulis 59; Newton Stand 54 (OAPs half-price in Taxtersulis and Newton Stand). CAR PARK: Free

2 5 4 500 ्र≒ः ० $\{ \{ \{ y_i \}_{i=1}^n \mid i = 1 \} \mid i = 1 \}$ jara, se Kalana

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المعقول موا 15.5

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: M Pipe — 26 winners from 118 runners gives a success ratio of 22.5% and a loss to a 51 level stake of \$30.63; J FitsGerald — 13 winners, 50 runners, 26.5%, +\$7.54; N Twiston-Davies — 12 winners, 47 runners, 25.5%, +\$13.35; Mrs M Reveley — 11 winners, 39 runners, 32.5%, +\$4.18; M H Easterby — 6 winners, 45 runners, 20.5%, -\$10.16; C Brooks — 8 winners, 23 runners, 23.5%, -\$5.84

ELEADING JUNESPEE M Development 18 winners, 32 runners, 23.5%, -\$5.84

ELEADING JUNESPEE M Development 18 runners, 23.5%, -\$5.84

28.6%, 42.108; D Nichelson — 8 winners, 34 runners, 23.5%, 45.34

III LEADING JOCKEYS: M Dwyer — 18 winners, 105 rides, 17.1%, 446.23; R Dunwoody 17 winners, 63 rides, 27%, 59.66; G Bradley 10 winners, 37 rides, 27%, 4524.08;
A Magaire 10 winners, 49 rides, 20.4%, 428.55; G McCourt 10 winners, 50 rides, 20%, +51.56.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Mr Cotton Socius (12.30), Bold Choice (1.00) & Imalight (2.35) travel 251 rules from R Frost's Buckfastleigh stable in Devon. Hillwalk (1.00) covers 215 rules from R Cartis's Woodcote yard in London.

ſ			
	12.00	GARSTANG NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (D added 2m 6f Penalty Value £3,035	IV I) £4,000
l ı	2-157(11	CHOPWELL CURDANS (17) (Ourham Drapes Ltd) M.H. Easterby 6 11 12	Wyer
ΙŽ		DANZIG ISLAND (38) (The Gazeley Partnership) W Jenis 5 11 6	
l 3		ADMORRALS SEAT (25) (G E Shouler) M W Easterby 8 11 0	
1 4	00.26-6	BE BRAVE (23) (Mrs Stephenie Parsons) T Ethermeton 6 11 (1	P Nives
1 5		GRATE DEEL (71) Pars M Ashbyl P Beaumont 8 11 0	
ē		BUST ALBERT (35) (A ET Mines) Mrs.) Porten 6 11 0	
1 7		NAUGHTY FUTURE (40) A K Coling) J J O'Neil 7 11 0	
8		SAMELEE (46) (S Marron) P Hobbs 7 11 0	
Ğ		WHAT'S YOUR STORY (40) Dany Wingsty D Nicholson 7 11 0	
10		MISS LAMPLICHT (31) (Dennis Hardwison) F Murtagn 6 10 9	
177		PENNANT COTTAGE (885) SP J Wooden't Mass K Wheehouse & 10 9	

19	95: My Ros	sant 6 11 5 T Well 4-1 (P Beven) 14 mm	
1	12.30	MAKERFIELD NATIONAL HUNT NOVICE HURDLE (C D) (DIV I) £4,000 added 2m Penalty Value £3,060	LAS
-			•
1	0050-11	GUENDA (45) (D) (Abs J K Powell) N Twestor-Daves 5 11 11C LI	
12	1	CROWN EQUERRY (28) (CD) (Robert Ogsen) A Turnell 6 11 10P C	400
3	40-	BRAZE, OR BUST (322) Mrs C A Waterst P Webber 5 11 4	I Day
4		CASSINATIO (30) (Proper Heat-Treatment) N Henderson 6 11 4	
5		GREY STORY (30) (G.J. Philips) A.J. Wilson 8 11 4	
6		ICE COLD IN ALEX (35) Deremy Beggleyl W Jerks 5 11 4 R	
17		MR COTTON SOCKS (40) (Agrees) R Frost 8 11 4	
8		PUREVALUE (28) (A D Symmons) M W Eggetby 5 11 4	
9		RELUCIONO (49) (M. G. Lincoli C. Brost 6 11 4 Richard	
100		ANASTRISIA WENDSOR (17) (Mrs Gloria Bestr) D Modest 5 10 13D J	
וו ו		BODFARI PRODUCER (40) (Tilstone Lodge Sturg J Edwards 6 10 13	
12	12-05	COOLE HILL (21) (Messa & Wirdeld and J Potted D Nicholson 5 10 13 R John	1504
13		MESS BRECOMELL (71) (Arme Kaplen & Rex Johnson) Mrs J Ploman 7 10 13	
14		SILVER SHRED (17) (8F) (D M Beresford M Pros 5 10 13	
ו ה		_ 14 declared _	

	8-1 19	Coole Hi 95: By St	I, 19-1 Miss Brecknell, 14-1 Relaction, Bottlari Producer, 16-1 other and 6 11 4 R Dunwoody 10-11 (No Pipe) 10 rm	
		L00	NEW YEAR HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £10,500 added 3m Penalty Value £8,091.	BBC1
į	1 .	7120.11E	SAUTHER ROAD CAST ITA 1889 (Antius Smith Mrs.) Planen 8 11 10	
	15	12702 /	LASE TEEDERN (23) MAS A T Genthern) / Old 11 11 9	
ı	1 7	12245.2	THE EDGE PROMISE USA ITA (Robert Cropper) N Gastring S 11 7	C //CW/07/P
1	ĺź	DIO14E1	uni i Tranz 1905) (Dù Niko F K Filic) K Richtoù 10 11 5	
i	ΙZ	22.1246	TRACE TO BE TRUE COS. (D) (Im McGosth) M H Easterly 8 11 4	
ļ	17	E7779 3/3	WALKERS DESIGNED LAW TO PROJECT STATE OF THE	& 6740 (9)
ı	7	42444 C	COUNTY COME (195) IPS // P Michigans 1 10 Neil 9 11 2	
ł	1 _		not no surgery (CS) (both Inconti) P First 10 10 12	
ı	8	142-530	TARANOSS (23) (D) (Howard Parker) J Edwards 9 10 12	R Johnston (3)
ı	9	131215	[AKWARDS (25) [Li] STURBU FRIEND) COMMENS 9 TO 12	P Hibero
ł	10	610-640	HILLIMALK (23) (D) (M L Shone) R Curts 10 10 8.	
ł			- 10 declared -	

BETTING: 5-2 Smith's Band, 11-4 The Prog Prince, 11-2 Front Line, 7-1 Toognod To Be True, 8-1
Tearent Prince, 9-1 Terranoss, 12-1 Lake Tearent, 16-1 Hill Trix, 20-1 Bold Choice, 25-1 Hillwells
1995: Tortan Tyrant 9-11 10 A Dobbin 6-5 fG Richards) 5 am

FORM GUIDE

THE FROS PRINCE can confirm test season's superiority over Smith's Basid. The ground was heavy at Kerreton last February when the selection was left clear two out by the departure of somith's Band. The Frog Prince is 31b better off and rain a stormer on his reappearance against Somith's Band. The Frog Prince is 31b better off and rain a stormer on his reappearance against Easy Buch at Newbury (2m40. Smith's Band, who has improved this term ends was a Wincarion and Utroseter, was insveiling well when falling at Sandown five weeks ago. Toogbod To Better and Utroseter, was insveiling well when plugging away to beat Andrelot at Warwick and the high-register found him out behind to Stragnose at Wetherby efferwards. Front Lline, beaten when a gaing of the last at Wetherby, still shaped well and can be fanced against Toogbod To Be Time even on the 31b worse terms. Aud such Taragnose, who will come on for his Tourcester run. He is preferred to Lake Tourse and Hillmarkir (binkered first time), while Tourseen Prince and Bold Choice do not look up to this.

Ē	L.30	NORTHERN HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B)£7,500 added 2m Penalty Value £5,563	BBC1.
1	F-51112	ESIGNO NEL (35) (D) (First Chance Racing) J Spearing 5 11 10	P Carbon
2		STONEPRI (28) (D) (The Voice Group List) Mass H Knest 5 11 9	
3	11384-4	ROBERTY LEA (35) (D) (Wentdale Const Ltd) Mrs M Reveley 8 11 5	P Nibres
4	211400-	BELIFANT MAP (USA) (282) (D) (N B Mason (Farms) Link G M Moore 6 11 3	N Bende
5	1121-40	FOURTH IN LINE (28) (D) (Nos G Jerkinson) J Edwards 8 10 11	R Johason (3
6	0/111-30	ALIADEER (USA) (28) (RF) (Mass Y Foster) M W Easterby 7 10 8	M Daye
7	3-01211	THORSTON GATE (28) (CD) (T H Bennet) M H Easterby ? 10 6	L Wye
8	130503	ICHATER (CAM) (254) (C) (D) (Frank A Parray); M Pipe 5 10 2	
0	2121.L0	PORT LINE 189 Rt D Peter C M Man 7 10 0	J. Pallandon

SETTINE: 7-4 Thomston Gate, 3-1 Eskinso Nel, 7-1 Cool Luke, 8-1 Fourth in Line, Khatir, 10-1 Roberty Lee, Aljedeer, 14-1 Stoopin, 16-1 Bornt Isip
1995; Palacegae King 6 9 9 B Harding 15-2 (A C Whitans) 6 ran
FORM GUIDE
COOL LUKE is well treated. A duel monce winner and a decent sort when the ground is in his
favour, he can be expected to come on for his seasonal run at Newcostie when a 19-length
eight to Thomston Gate. The ground will suit him better today and the 10b pull gives him a
fighting chance of beating fhormton Gate this time. Off a 65th higher prair, Thomston Gate followed up with ease from Star Rage and Storapia at Doncsater. Although reised only 3b for this
task, Thomston Gate wouldn't warnt the ground too soft, Roberty Las as been running over longer
trys and looks beatable at the weights, especially if the ground turns testing, Eskinso Mail went trps and looks bestable at the weights, especially if the ground turns testing, Estiman Net we down fighting against Chef's Song in the prestigious William Hell Handlage Hundle at Sandon but is not big and to win this under 1.1st 10th ta 71b higher rating after Sandown) will be a cracking effort. Fourth in Line improved last season to win a competitive handlage at Cheffenha and the ground looked too fast for him on the same course four weeks ago when unplaced. Cheryfs Lad. Algadear failed to land a gamble here last time but he, along with multiplication run of season) may find this minimum trip too sharp. Khartir, who beat Greenback at Newbury early last season, lost his form in the second half of the campaign but could well surprise a few of these with his low weight.

Selection: COOL LIKE

	_
ı	O AA NEWTON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £12,000 PRA1
	2.00 NEWTON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £12,000 BBC1 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £8,403
,	1 101/13P MIDNESIONA (273) (CD) (Frome Som M Page 13 11 10
	2 1512-F6 MORCEL (42) (D) (Mrs.) M Corpern J H Johnson 8 10 12P Carberry
	3 1280-25 ANTRAK EXPRESS (56) (D) (Arranik Express Ltd) N Henderson 9 10 2
	4 121F5-1 EASY BUCK (43) (CD) 1 P M & J W Cook) N Tesson-Dates 9 10 0
	5 41F254 BLPAST (427) (D) (14th John Webber) P Webber 13 10 0
	- 5 declared -

Minimum weight 10st, True handiup weight Blass 9st 9st. BETTING: 7-4 Easy Book, 11-4 Morces, 200-30 Minimahom 1995: Mamehona 12 11 S R Durasooy 5-2 (M Pipel 3 cm FORM GUIDE

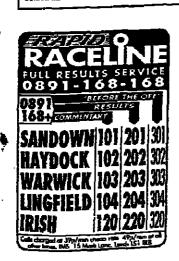
EASY BUCK, just held The Frog Prince's tate surgle at Newbury six weeks ago. Rassed 4th for that success. Easy Buck wit like the ground and can follow up over his oppnium trip off this feether weeftr. Militizehoums has won over this trip first time out for the last two seasons, finding too much host for General Pershing or the same race 12 months ago. However, he is not sure to give away 24th to Easy Buck. Alestrak Express meets Easy Buck on 11th better terms compared to last season's Mildomsy O' Rec. A creditable fifth to Dublin Piper in the Mackeson eight weeks ago, Ambak Express would really like the ground a bit tester. Moroell loves racing left-handled and will make the pace.

[2		GARSTANG NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DIV II) £4,1 2m 6f Penalty Value £3,035	
1	RIP	HAMMER HUNTER (USA) (32) (BF) (Dr G Naden Mohan) C Egenton 5 11 6	_I A McCertin
2	622-310	HOODWINGER (33) (C) (RF) (P A Honell) W Jeris 7 11 6	C 4 4444 7
3	60-	ALICHAND CASTLE (469) (Calins Creation Dosen Cars) 5 Bowing 5 11 0	P Waggs
4	830	ANOMENAI (17) (I Castan) I O'Neil 6 11 0	P McGrath (7
5	2-OF	HATCHAM BOY (50) (Robert Bernor) D Micholson 6 11 0	R Johnson (S
6	465	JET RULES (23) (Je. Saxoney Co) Mrs. J. Perren 6 11 0	R Fester
7	200	SHUNKVOGH (250 (Sean Graham) G M Moore 5 11 0	ساويتك لي
ġ		TRESPASSER (Als A R Tearrespei) O'Ned 7 11 0	
9	5/34-0	WARYNOWOV (21) (Ree Health Ltd) M W Easterby 7 11 0	
10		WALIGHT (36) (J K Nashrij R Frost 7 10 9	
	140	- 10 declarus -	
BE	TUNE: 7-4	Jet Roles, 7-2 Hetcham Soy, 9-2 Hender Hunter, 11-2 Hoodwinter, 8	-1 Treopesse

10-1 Sheeprogh, 12-1 imalight, 14-1 Arguinal, 20-1 others 1985; see theson one 3.05 OLDHAM NOVICE CHASE (CLASS C) 57,000 added 2m Penal

ty Value £4,879
0-13113 COMBRIAN CHALLENGE (21) (D BF) (Combran Industrial) M H Easterby 7 11 101 Wys
RO-3F41 PRIMERULY PLACE (36) (A.) Cresser) N Twestern Davids 8 11 10
5:1/F-1 ASK TOM (30) (3) (8 T Steven Brown) T Tate 7 11 7
555-23 RAWINFELD (24) (The Hedonsis) C Broad 7 11 3P Carbon
- 4 ductored -
TIBAG: 11-8 Combrian Contemps, 2-1 Physicalley Place, 9-4 Asia Toza, 14-1 Hawkifeld
95: Banyo 5 11 0 R Durwoocy 4-11 (M Ppe) 3 mm
•

3.40 MAKERFIELD NATIONAL HUNT NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DIV II) £4,000 added 2m Penaity Value £3,061 D) (DIV II) £4,000 added 2m Penaitty Walle £3, 025/13 NOVA RIM (SS) (DI BP) S Neeling N Henderson 7 11.10 125-0 ASHMELL BDY (SZ) (BP) (A BS Round) P Hobbs 5 11.4 15-0 ASHMELL BDY (SZ) (BP) (A BS Round) P Hobbs 5 11.4 10.30 E. PREDORÉ (29) (Pits Alexon Smith) J Old 5 11.4 10.30 E. PREDORÉ (29) (Pits Alexon Smith) J Old 5 11.4 10.30 C. RIBRIO (23) (Nes A Nempl.) S Searing 5 11.4 10.30 C. RIBRIO (23) (Nes A Nempl.) S Searing 5 11.4 10.30 C. RIBRIO (23) (Nes A Nempl.) S Searing 5 11.4 10.30 C. RIBRIO (23) (Nes A Nempl.) S Constant of 11.4 10.30 C. RIBRIO (1010) (D. Donney G. Jones S 11.4 10.30 _____P Nives



* THE INDEPENDENT Horse Racing Results . 0839 - 111 171 Commentary 0839 - 111 175

Source: Broaday steam Helphine 971 485 5964 Cally charged at 39p her min cheap mir. 40p per min झ औ और पंसारत.

KING GEOR	GΕ	VI	C ŀ	I A S	; E	10	ΥE	ΑR	- T A	Ī,
	1985	86	_	88	89		91 3		93 3	_
Wener's place to believe	_			_	- <u>;</u>	1	Ð	1	2/	_
					46	9.4	10-1	æv	9.2	16
Arts				. – -			6		. 7	
Percentage of winners p Sportner-priced winner. Longuet-priced winner. N Top trainers: F Doumen —	Desert Lupsal:	Och 25-1	(1-2) (198	1988	<u> </u>		:	Algan	(199	4)
D Esyora -										_
Top jockeye: S Shewood R Dunwoody A Nordrat -	- De	sert O	rchd (1939,	1990)			٠.	
Hex. U = Unsessed rider, 2										

SANDOWN

11.55 BBMSEY (nap) 12.25 Our Kris

L25 Simple Arithmetic (nb) 3.35 Kalasadi GOING: Classes - Good (Good to Soft places); Hurriles - Good to Soft (Back straight, Good) © Bight-hand course; seven testing fences along back straight; run-in of 300yd.

☐ Course is on A307, 4m S of Kingston. Eather railway station (service from London. Waterloo) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Clab 515, Junior Clab (16 - 25yrs) 513; Grandssand & Paddock \$12; Silver Ring 55. CAR PARE: free, or \$2 in members.

HYPERION

1.55 Strong Promise

2.30 Merry Gale

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH EUNNERS: D Nicholson 29 where from 77 runners gives a success ratio of 37.7% and a profit to a \$1 level stake of +\$52.79; J Gifford — 25 winners, 12.79; Lunners 20.5. +\$24.67; M Pipe — 11 winners, 82 runners, 17.79; 4.16.97; M Headerson — 9 winners, 82 miners 11.7%, \$10.70 T Forester — 8 winners, 34 runners, 23.5%, +\$30.11; O Sherwood — 8 winners, 45 runners, 17.8%, \$12.06; A Tarnell 7 miners 19.8%, \$10.70 T A Sherwood — 8 winners, 18.00 M Pipe — 19 winners, 19.00 M Pipe — 19 win .12.012+ **#8.86** ar

— 7 Winders, 16 runners 30.376, 74.10.41.

ELBADING JOCKESS, B Danwoody — 30 winners, 106 rides, 30.2%, +5.22.74; A Magnire — 19 winners, 91 rides, 20.3%, -5.11.16; J Osborne — 16 winners, 103 rides 15.5%, -5.40.2%; P Hilds — 8 winners, 48 rides, 16.7%, +5.4.45; Mr C Ward Thomas — 7 winners, 20 rides, -5.4.45; Mr C Ward Thomas — 7 winners, 20 rides, -6.4.45; Mr C Ward Thomas — 7 winners, 20 rides, -6.4.45; Mr C Ward Thomas — 7 winners, 20 rides, -6.4.45; Mr C Ward Thomas — 7 winners, 20 rides, -6.4.45; Mr C Ward Thomas — 7 winners, 20 rides, -6.4.45; Mr C Ward Thomas — 7 winners, -6.4.45; Mr C Wa

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Cross's Delight wan at Excler or LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS; One Man (2.30) travels 297miles from GRich Cumbria, MIII Thysne (12.25) covers 281 miles from Mrs M Reveley's Cleveland stable.

Ŀ	11.55	BONUSPRINT LIMITED HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £15,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £10,504
1	360-112	AROLERS (USA) (50) (D) (Ch So Rose Parmenthy) D Elsworth 8 11 10
2	22/310 F	OH SO RESICT (50) (D) (The Ch So Risky Syndicate) D Elsworth 9 11 4
3	1226.35	ABSALON'S LADY (42) (D) (Mhacombe Monor Racing) D Esworth B 13. 1 A P McCoy
4	42/2000-	MOLE BOARD (296) (CD) NV E Sturij J Old 14 1.0 12
5	1131-14	BBMSEY (35) (D) (SR) (Akten J Ryan) R Aketurst 6 10 10
6	11/4414	COLLIER BAY (297) (CD) (W E Sturt) J Old 6 10 10
		- 6 declared -

12.25 FARILAWNE HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,250 added 4YO 2m 110yds Penalty Value £4,241

_			
1	1531P2	OCEAN HAWK (USA) (5) (D) (Mes, Jean Broadhurst) N Twiston-Davies 3	11.7C Manua
2	11	OUR KRIS (29) (0) (Million in Mind Partnership (5)) N Henderson 11 ?	
3	21P	CHICODARI (29) (D) (Bing C B Harvey) D Nicholson 11 4	Magir
4	2	BUTTLESHIP BRUCE (30) (BF) (T A Foreman) N Callegram 11.0	F Title
5	_	BOLINAR (The Sales Daring Partnershap) R Alethurs 11 0	
6		FANTASTIC FLEET (Mass J S Doyle) Mass J S Doyle 11 0	S Curra
7		PEDCRESIAN (Liplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 11 0	
8		KADAMBARN (Sir Enc Packer) R. Allerhurst 11:0	A P McCa
ĕ	n	MASON (18) IS P Tindell S Mellor 11 0	Chris Web
10	•	POLY AMANSHAA (M. C. Banks) M. Banks 11.0	D Skyne
11		PREFORM DANGER (Lady Carrille Dempster) C Brooks 11 0	D Gerlands
12		REAGANESQUE (USA) (Mrs. John Spielman) P Murphy 11 0	
13		SPUMANTE (The Charleston Partnersho) M Muggerdge 11 0	B Poles
14		THAT OLD FEELFIG (30) (Mrs P Snewcood) J White 11 0	P Malonski
15	š	TIBETAN (43) (BF) (Lady Hernes) Lady Hernes 11 0	E Murok
15	á	WITHEY-DE-BERGERAC (49) (Enve Houghton) I S Moore 11 0	W McFarton
17	421	MILL THYME (30) (D) (Mrs Breate Polant) Mrs M Reactey 10 13	6 Le
71	421	- 17 deciated -	
-	TMG. 9.4	O- Note A. 1 Tibelon S. 1 ME Thoma: S. 1 Ocean House, 10-1 Rollie	eshio Renea, Chie

12 ES ORIENTAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £10,500 added

١	<u>U</u>	LZ.D:	2m Penalty Value £7,230				
ı	1	5300-32	SFORM ALERT (35) (CD) (Alex Dawn Perest) D Nightson 10 11 10				
			THUMBS UP (21) (D) (Michael Buckley) N Henderson 10 10 13				
			HIGH BARON (22) (D) (Mest C A James) R Hodges 9 10 10				
	4	21-1111	ELSTHORPE (28) (b) glatan Broughon) Mass H Knight 8 10 () F Tible				
	5	1111212	CAPTARN KINEDINE (35) (DI) (Preside Partnership) P Nicholis 8 10 0				
	-		- 5 declared -				
	Michoum weight: 10st, True handkap weight: Cappain Wooding 9st 9th.						
	BE	MING: 8-4	Storm Alert, 7-2 Easthorps, 4-1 Thumbs Up, 5-1 Captalo Khedive, 7-1 High Baron				
	AND A A The Unit of SEA SEA AS BUILDING COM						

125 ing BARINGS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS C) £7,000 added 2m

	ــــــا (4T 11Uyus Penanty Value £5,084	
			DARK HOKEY (21) (CD) (Roger Sajert S Dow 11 11 12	
	2 13	34-11	MAJOR SUMMIT (23) (D) (A D Weller) J Gallord 7 11 12	P Hide
	3 5/4	10P-1	FALMOUTH BAY (44) (lames Morton) S Sherwood 7 11 8	
	4 F3	3341	HAVE A NIGHTCAP (17) (R A M Pacecourses Les) N Literoden 7 11 8	B Powell
- 1	5 4	IP-SP	CLEMER REMARK (53) (Mrs Jan Smith) N Trission-Davies 7 11 4	C Meude
	6		FUNCHEDRI GALE (Vings Of The Road Partnership) R Curtis 9 11 4	D Morris
	7 62	P40'	PM TOBY (672) (D H Armstage) A Fosser 9 11 4	F Lashy
	8 0∤	00-F2	MASTER (UNITER (64) (8F) (N.A. McGroy) J White 7 11 4	D Bentley
	9 06	33-37	AR PICEPOCKET CAN MAS J.R. Fostert Mass H. Knufet 8.11.4	J F Titley
	10 00/	1-273	SELVERFORT LAD (16) (BF) (A T A Water) T Cosey 7 11 4	M A Fitzeerald
	11 14	302-3	SMEPLE ARTHMETIC (36) (Ars Michael Modey) K Bailey 8 11 4	R Dunwoody
i	12 01	X+12	THE CAUMINIE (17) (BF) (The On The Run Parmership) G Balong 8 11 4	A P McCoy
	13 50	126-	THE SHY PADRE (204) (Nike Batemen & Demis Color) R Lee 7 11 4	P McLoughilla
			- 13 declared -	_
			Major Semetit, 5-2 Simple Arithmetic, 6-1 Falmouth Bay, Mr Picipock	
	fort Lad	i, 18-1	The Canmers, 12-1 Dark Honey, 14-1 Have A Nightcap, Master Hunte	r, 16-1 others
			el 7 11 8 D Brideveter 2-1 (N Twiston-Davies) 8 ran	-
			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	

1.55 ING BARINGS TOLWORTH HURDLE (CLASS A) C4 (Grade 1) £25,000 2m 110yds Pen Value £16,075

FORM GLIDE
REVER MORTH was a naiving good Far race, who won a Listed race at Newmandst and a Group 1 in Germany in 1994 and res five times successful in 1993, including the Scottish Classic at Ayr. He has already been bedded for the Chempon Hurde, is sure to have been well schooled and Richard Durwoody taxes the mourt. Right Wits uses a Group 1 winner in tasty in 1993 and won the John Potes Stakes at Newbyrtico years ago. His will also have been taught his job and should not be far away. There shouldn't be much to choose better Zephyrus and Saudian, who were first and second at Cheterniam tour weeks ago, separated by a couple of lengths, the numer-up row having a 3th athentage. Strong Promise scored in good style at Accord before a third to Call Equiname and Speciated Prince on the same track, beater a neck and a short base. Josh Gathor unas Lusely fingly who sent in at Assort in November and must improve and French acquestion As Don Carres, winter of several chases in his native country, most receptly at Auteut five weeks back.

Selections RIVER NORTH

a poor run at Aintree last time. Right Win, another good 2.30 KING GEORGE VI TRIPLEPRINT CHASE (CLASS A) C4 (Grade 1) £100,000 3m 110 yds Pen Value £63,835 1 5U6-003 ALGAN (FR) (34) (D) (Marquesa de Moratañal F Doumen (Fr) 8 11 10... Red. Light Green cap 2 RIGHG-1 BARTON BANK (70) (CD) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 10 11 10... Emerald Green, White stars, Emerald Green cap, White star P2300/1- 800K OF MUSIC (385) 9/ks D Lousdel K Bs/ley 8 11 10. Yellow, Purple stripe, Purple and Yellow hooped sleeves and cap 111-10F COURTON (46) (C) (M G St Quinton) O Sherwood 9 11 10... Pink and Yellow diamonds, Yellow sleeves and cap 11110-P MASTER OKTS (35) (D) (BF) IP A Marthews) K Bailey 10 11 10 Black, Yellow chevron, chevrons on sie 1241-21 MERRY GALE (42) (Nert M Stanley) J Desaper (M) 8 11 10 White, Yellow diamonds, Yellow sleeves, quartered cap 4163-62 InONSEUR LE CURE (28) (D) (Hector H Brown) J Edwards 10 11 10 ... Orange, Black and White hooped cap 111F-11 ONE MAN (28) (D) (1 Hales) G Rechards 8 11, 10 Yellow, Red star, Yellow sleeves, White armiers, Yellow cap, Red star UCS-230 VAL D'ALENE (FR) (34) (0) Mar: de Monton; F Doumen (Fr) 9 11 10......

Blue and Yellow hoops, Blue sleeves, Black cap 10 St2-21U YOUNG HUSTLER (21) (C) (D) (BF) (Gaun MacEchem) N Tweaton-Davies 9 11 10 C Maud Dark Blue, Yellow stripe, Yallow sleeves, Dark Blue armiels and star on Yallow Cap
11 523112- BRIST GALE (260) Mrs Carre Zenz-Malls | Gallod 9 11 5

BETTING: 5-2 One Man, 100-30 Berine Bank, 9-2 Marster Onts, 5-1 Merry Bale, 10-1 Val D'Alene, 12-1 Algen, 16-1 River Gale, Coulton, 20-1 Monsterr Le Cure, 25-1 Book Of Masic, Young Hestier 1994; Algen 6 11 10 P Crevalier 16-1 (F Doumen, Fr) 9 cm. FORM GUIDE

MASTER DATS, pulled up three out when 4-9 featurate for a three-numbriace at Chepsow five weeks ago, a still worth taking a chance with. Britishit witner of the Cheftenham Gold Cup last March, he would pre-ter further and softer ground, but is still very much the pick on his best form. One Main looks the danger. for turner and some gournd, but is son very mugar the pick on his near torm, dues make tooks the canger.

Contain Rechards' 1994 Hennessy hero has won both his races this season in cracing style and should cantim bases Haydock numeric with Blassieur Le Carte, who was better 1.1 lengths and his only a 4th pull. Merry Cate is a talented raiser but his Stamina is slightly suspect and will be tested to the full on this uping firmsh. Barton Blanck won this in 1994 and was clear when he unseeted at the last in 1995, learing Alignm to beat Mousision Le Cure. He has had his jumping problems moved out and jumped well enough when lending the Charlie Hall Pattern Chase at Weitherby on his naturn.

3.00 ANTHONY MILDMAY, PETER CAZALET MEMORIAL CA

Ľ	200	H*CAP CHASE (CLASS B) £30,000 added 3m 5f 110yds Penalty Value £21,300
1	101-211	WELSFORD (38) (CD) (Ame Kaplan & Rev Johnson) Mrs. J Pamen 13 12 0 R Demondy
2	31410 R	COMMERCIAL AIRTIST (52) (Mrs Dawi Thompson) N Gassige 1D 11 7
3		RIVERSIDE 90Y (21) (D) (Buggine Partiership) M Pips 13 11 3C Switch
4	(4PP-5F	SIETON ABBEY (21) (G Hubbard) & Hubbard 11 10 13
5	021F-32	FLYER'S NAP (36) (SF) (R J Toryl R Alner 10 10 12
6	3000-33	SUPERIOR FIRSH (42) (D) (C) Herdrey) Mrs. J Pernen. 10 10 9
7		GRANGE BRAVE (35) (Mrs J Mould) N Teston-Daves 10 10 4 D Wolsh (5)
8	12521 F	BRACKENFIELD (63) (T and J & Curry) P Nictods 10 10 4
9		GREENWIL TARE AWAY (35) (Mrs P F Payne) P Hobbs 8 10 3Peter Hobbs
10	1/212F-1	SURY BAY (23) Uplands Biootsrock C Brooks 7 10 3
		GHA GNEJAGH (21) (Mrs S A Scott) N Twiston-Davies 10 10 0
		INTO THE RED (36) (J Hucke) J White 12 10 0 P Michael III
13	66300-4	NEVADA GOLD (29) Maltavord Ltdl F Yardey 10 10 0
24	13156-5	DONT TELL THE WETE (23) (Eate Racing Club) C Egenton 1D 10 0
15	PP4/111	HIGH PADRE (21) (I S Murcoch) J FeoGeralo 10 10 0F Leaday (3)
		WOODLANDS BOY (25) (Stan Moore) R Hoad 8 10 0
		- 16 declared -

Minimum weight: 20st. The handican weights: Newada Gold St. 13th, Don't Tell The Wille St. 12th, High Patre St. 18th, Woodlands Boy 7st 13th.

BETTING: 4-1 Suny Bay, 9-2 Greenfull Turn Anaty, 5-1 Physi's Nap, 6-1 Willsford, 8-1 Superior Finish, 10-1 High Patre, 12-1 Brackenfield, 18-1 Grange Bratos, 20-1 Don't Tell The Wille, Girls Gasulagh, 20-2 Commercial Artist, Riverside Boy, 33-1 Into The Red, 46-1 Neveda Gold, 50-1 Sixton Abbey, 200-1 Woodlands Rov.

1995: Deep Bramble S 11 3 C Maude 11-2 (P Nicholis) 10 ran FORM GUIDE

SUMY BAY, whose only defeat in four outlings test season was when he fell four out in Sweet Duke's race at Accot in February, looked booked for further success offer his comforgable Towcester (3m [1]) whi on he return, Charle Brooke' charge has been raised 8th for that but is a progressive type and will be well suited by this longer journey. Greenhild Tare Away must be feating. Praisin Hobbs has always held a high opmon of the eight-year-bit who landed a handcoap hundle at Chettenham on his return and went on to dely 11st 10th at Chepstow, a fine display considering he was giving numer-up General Wolfe, the hot become, 15th. Willaford, the 1995 Scottish Netternal victor, is on a fast high after scoring at Chettenham and on this standish his farmed to confirm form with Physic's Nigo, third to him at Presidury Park and a pound better off from when heaten a length and a half here. Jaminy Frictianaid has done well with High Padrie, warner of all his three naces this season after missing 1994-95.

Selection: SURNY BAY

	3.35	HARRIER NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D £5,000 added 2m 6f Penalty Value £4,137	C4
1	00-12	SWING QUARTET (50) (D) (R L C Hardey! N Twiston-Dakes 6 12 0	S Joynes (7)
2		GUNGER JM (39) (Mrs Gra Webster) P Hedger 5 11 12	
3		KALASADI (USA) (50) (BF) (G A Lidson) Mess I 5 Doyle 5 11 10	
4		ABSOLUTELY AVERAGE (43) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 6 11 9	
5		REM FOR DANCE (32) (G A Husbard G Husbard 6 11 9	
6	444- <u>15</u> 4	THE BOSTAIL POX (45) (Racing Club of Wales) P Hooks 7 11 6	R Donwoody
7		COLDENSWIFT (17) (DI (BIF) (Nirs S Watts) G Balong 5 11 6	
8		REVEREND BROWN (21) (J Palmer-Brown) () Shewood 6 11 5	
9		WELSH COTTAGE (793) (Points Tapes & Conversions Ltd) Gritori 9 11 4 .	
10		SMENO (23) (Mrs A M Lipsdell) S Dow 5 11 4	
11		CREDON (45) Gustler Recreg S Woodman 8 11 4	
12		NOW WE KNOW (21) (R Herbert, T Dossey & M Drake) M Shepperd 8 11.2	
13	1P4	SMAFAR (35) (D) (Paul G Jacobs) N Graham 5 10 10	JA A Pitzgocald
14	50-00	LALERDA (5) (White Horse Rating Let) D Blacom 5 10 10	P Holley
15	41-2425	ROMALITO (21) (BF) (C McKenna) M Bienstant 6 10 9	D Gellagher
16	06-35	J010 (35) (John Cost) D Cresel 6 10 9	P McLoughlin
17	533	FRESH CHOICE (54) (BF) (I kerman) P. Rose 6 10 8.	D O'Suffree
18	0-34012	MISS CASHITAL (44) (BIR SMs A G Hoosen) D Thorn 5 20 8	D Walsh (5)
19	6/3/35-5	SPRING CRASS (45) (B J M Ryal) B Ryal 8 10 5	F Titley
20		CROSA'S DELICAT (5) (Bissione Partnership) M Pige 9 10 4 (7ex)	
71		CLASH OF CRIMALS (43) (b) The Wilshire Parciersing) J.S. Moore 7 10 3	
22		CHANGE AT EIGHT (\$73) (M) Bevani R O'Subsan 6 10 1	
_	_	- 22 decized -	
-	mar. 0 1	Branco de Parez a de Carrelo Radició de 10 de Carbo Parez da Carbon Lang	45 4 Casab

SETTING: 8-1 Reverend Brown, 9-1 Cross's Deligit, 10-1 Salar Quartet, Creden, Ismeno, 12-1 Frest Choice, Soldiesswift, Miss Costical, Run For Dante, Simalar, Ginger Jan, 14-1 Absolutely Average, Gash Qf Cymbais, The Bobtall Fox, 18-1 Kalasadi, Latindi, Now We Know, Rossallto, Weish Col-

tage, 20-1 others 1995; Turner Prize 5 10 4) Ryan 5-1 (M Ryan) 13 ran FORM GUIDE

ISMENO tooks the type bliefy to get better and is fancing to supplement Towcester gains despite plenty of opposition. Crossa's Dellight, a cual seller lanner, could be in the shake-up. Reverged Brown, third in a bumper on his debut last term, left on his hundring how one has run unplaced in from attempts since but could pose a threat on this, his first venture into handcap company. Gredon, the mount of Admin Maguer, had been oil the course for ages before his three-length second to Materood Castle at Windson in November and could figure together with Sing Quartet, Kalasaga and Rum For Daste.

sport

Kendall finds respite in Wembley dreams

The Blades' manager talks to Glenn Moore about two decades of FA Cup memories



The FA Cup third round is one of football's most evocative occasions. In deep mid-winter, with most of autumn's ambitions reduced to fantasy, the season is regenerat-

big ones are revived by the prospect of another trophy to play for. And everyone remembers the good

Few will recall such a range as Howard Kendall, and few will do so in such an appropriate setting. When Kendall takes his Sheffield United team to face Arsenal at Highbury today he will roll back a dozen years on the clock. Then he might go back 20 more, to 1964, when he was 17.

At an age when most football fans have not even been to Wembley Kendall was out there playing. in the FA Cup final. He was then the youngest-ever Wembley final-

'Experiencing three finals in a row was unbelievable'

ist. His Preston team lost - to West Ham. Four years later Kendall was on the losing side again, as Everton lost to West Bromwich Albion. He never did gain a winners medal, just as, surprisingly, he nev-

er won an England cap.

But he did win at Wembley, in 1984, when Everton beat Watford to earn Kendall his first trophy as a manager. Winning the final, with Watford overawed, was the easy part. It is the semi-final, which was played at Highbury, which sticks in Kendall's mind and is the reason today will be replete with memories.

Everton, who had not been to an FA Cup final since that 1968 defeat, the only goal.

Four months earlier Everton they went on to win that year's FA Cup, two League titles, and the Eu-Back in 1904 Kendall had not Cup, two League titles, and the Eu-

ropean Cup-Winners' Cup.



It's good to talk: Howard Kendall discusses transfer deals on the phone in his office at Bramall Lane

at Sheffield United and Kendall said, "going back to Highbury will be special for me and Adrian. That was my first trophy and you always remember the first one. It was very important to me. They cannot take it away from you if you are manager of a club which won the FA

Cup final. "It was also the first trophy for met Southampton. No one scored Everton for a long time [14 years], until, with three minutes of extra and it meant European football time left, 5ft 6in Adrian Heath rose again, which was so important to the in front of the North Bank to head club." Everton went on to reach the "Experiencing three finals in a row solves. My main aim was not to fans had been calling for Kendall's was unbelievable. To win three dismissal. In the next three years semi-finals on the trot is a tremen-would cost us on the day. Thank-

played in the semi-final and did not

Davison, the regular half-back, was suspended by the club. Davison had been given permission to take the previous match off to attend a funeral in Edinburgh, instead he had assisted a family friend with personal problems. Jimmy Milne, the manager, objected to being misled

and Kendall was in. He recently saw the game on video but admitted: "I remember very little of it. I think the other players shielded me from it. They were more concerned that I settled next two finals and Kendall added: than with being nervous themwould cost us on the day. Thank-fully I played quite well."

A contemporary newspaper report said of Kendall: "The Sunday Heath is now assistant manager expect to play in the final. Then Ian school organist... defying the label

of 'youngest-ever Cup finalist', hit another long one which [Bobby] Moore cleared edgily away. Not a trace of nerves in this boy.

As that report suggests, at the time Kendall, at 17 years, 345 days. was thought to be the youngest FA Cup finalist ever. Thus, when Paul Allen played for West Ham in 1980, at 17 years. 256 days, it was thought that honour passed to

comprehensive The Guinness a cup of coffee, interjects, "no, it Record of the F.4 Cup Mike Collett found that Indian-born James Prinsep, of 1879 finalists Clapham Rovers, was 11 days younger than Allen. The most recent teenager was Chris Bart-Williams, who was 18 when playing for Sheffield Wednesday in 1993.

Kendall still was - and Allen is the youngest Wembiey finalist. Kendall, displaying an unexpected interest in numerology, added: "Paul was 16 years after me, and that was 16 years ago, so if it goes in sequence maybe the record will be an easier one. It is a tremendous opbroken this year. It was a long time

when the white horse came on?" At which point Heath, coming However, while researching his into Kendall's specious office with

ago. Someone said to me the oth-

er day: 'Wasn't that the Cup final

as the year delote Heath, 35 next Thursday, may play today. "There is more than a possibility that he will be involved. but he is unlikely to start Kendall said vesterday. "Even if he just sits with me it will be special for both

Birmingham, has joined as coach.
Three players, including Nathan
Blake, have left. The deals have realised £500,000 profit. According to reports, which Kendall will not comment on, that could be earmarked for Niall Quinn or Ian Rosh. It is not just the team which needs rebuilding. Viewed from the touch

when his Fulham side beat K*e*ndall's

line on the John Street side Bramall Lane looks an impressive, if dated. arena by First Division standards. From the other touchline there is a very different vista, that of the roofs and spires of Sheffield - the John Street stand was demolished in mid-1994 and is yet to be replaced. Bramail Lane has thus, inadvertently, reverted to the three-sided look of its cricket days. The result, said previous manager Dave Bassett, is a poxy atmosphere."

Bassett left the Blades, exhausted, in early December. Having taken United from Third Division to First/Premier, and kept them there for four years, he was shattered when they were relegated by the last goal of the season in May 1994. Last season was disappointing and now they are one from bottom in the First Division. Years of under-investment, in ground and team, have taken their toll.

Leaving with Bassett was the man he had been battling with for more funds for years, Reg Brealey. The unpopular chairman has been re-

'It is nice to get a big game but we could have done with an easier one'

placed by Mike McDonald and the ground should now be restored to four sides. Money, however, remains tight, a large notice by the franking machine orders: "Only essential post to go first-class". The club have to train on the Bramall Lane pitch and this interview is in-As Kendall has been in charge terrupted while Kendall haggles at Sheffield United for only 23 days about a few thousand pounds on a the match represents a daunting test transfer deal.

Kendail has been in management for 17 years, from Everton and "It is nice to get a big game," he Notts County to Spain and Greece. said. "but we could have done with "The demands have grown. It is portunity. I have made a few more of a financial disaster if clubs changes since I came here. I believe are relegated. Every chairman is have brought in some Premier saying the same thing: We want you League players, and inherited to come in and do a long-term job. some. They will have the chance on We have great plans. And, by the way, we cannot go down.' Somebody So far Kendall has brought in six has to."

Michel Vonk (Manchester City), it is not Sheffield United. Today. Gordon Cowans (Wolves), Mark Pat- though, he and his team can forget terson (Bolton). Chris Short (Notts about the league struggles and County, and brother of Everton's dream of Wembley. It may be 60 Craig) and Heath (Burnley). Viv Bus-try, who regularly reminds Kendall played in an FA Cup final, but about the 1975 FA Cup semi-final, somebody has to get there.

Robson and Wright abandon fate to FA

Bryan Robson has decided not to make a personal appearance to defend himself over his clash with the referee Paul Danson, while Ian Wright has apologised "unreservedly" for criticising leading referees and left his fate

to the FA disciplinary panel. Robson, the Middlesbrough player-manager, has been charged with disrepute by the Football Association along with the club's captain. Nigel Pear-son, and defender Neil Cox following the incident at the end of their defeat at Blackburn on 16 December. The trio have sent statements explaining their actions, but none has asked for a personal hearing.

Alan Shearer has already been cleared by the Crown Prosecution Service for alleged gestures at Boro after scoring the only goal of the game for Blackburn.

Wright, the Arsenal striker, fears he has become a target for referees this season with eight bookings, the last two in successive matches since he described them as "like little Hitlers".

Wright could escape punishment after showing contrition when asked to explain his com-

ments by the FA. "The matter will go before a disciplinary commission next week when they will decide what action - if any - will be taken." an FA spokesman said.

Paul Gascoigne has landed a two-match ban later this month. The Rangers midfielder's latest ban is results from his involvement in the infamous 11 November match with Aberdeen at Ibrox. He was given a one-match suspension after escaping action by the match referee. John Rowbotham, and having 12 disciplinary points put against his name after a special hearing by

the Scottish Football Association. Now yellow cards in his last two matches have taken the him over the 16-point threshold for the second time since arriving from Lazio last summer.

West Ham have taken Peter Shilton, the former England goalkeeper, on a month's loan as cover for Ludek Miklosko Ajax have signed winger Peter Hoekstra from PSV Eindhoven to help cover for the injured Marc Overmars, who is not expected to play again this season after injuring his knee. The fee is around £2m.

Milan make their pitch for the title

Milan restart their Italian league Fiorentina travel to face in- lan, travel to Bergamo to face table Tenerife, while rivals With teenage forward Raul title chase after the Christmas form Roma, who beat champi- Atalanta, the side who knocked Barcelona and Espanyol face Gonzalez injured, coach Jorge break with a returfed San Siro ons Juventus 2-0 in Turin on the them out of the Italian Cup in more difficult games. Valdano is likely to turn to Jose pitch and a one-point lead over final day of 1995. second-placed Fiorentina.

On both occasions the Milan

Weah, flanked by Roberto Bag- rival." gio and Marco Simone.

alongside Marcel Desailly and Iriend. Demetrio Albertini. For the second time this seagame. There are no special naian Abedi Pele, son Sampdoria turn to a second-games or opponents. he said. Atletico Madrid For the second time this seagame. There are no special naian Abedi Pele.

Son Sampdoria turn to a secondchoice goalkeeper in 21-year-old
Matteo Sereni. The regular
Argentine derby in attack where cert this weekend will not affect

Real lost that he had when he was dismissed from Real Madrid in Sociedad in the Basque derby looking for their 900th victory in Real lost that league title, and the first division. After domi-

The league leaders, who en- two Swedish midfielders, Jonas pi may drop Fabrizio Ravanelli win at Salamanca, and Nar- Second-placed Barcelona tertain Sampdoria tomorrow, Therm of Roma and Stefan in attack, recalling Alessandro vaez, who imped off with an an- travel to Celta Vigo without have drawn their last two home Schwarz of Fiorentina who be- Del Piero who was rested for two kle injury. have been key figures midfielders Ivan de la Pena and games against Napoli and Tori- gan their professional careers games prior to the Christmas in Atletico's revival this season. Roger Garcia, who picked up together at Swedish club Malmo, break.

coach Fabio Capello argued successful season owes a lot to perience of their Uruguyan de- - will probably mean the debut victory over Espanyol. that the poor condition of the Schwarz. "He's an inspirational fenders Jose Herrera and Paolo of striker Juan Carlos Gomez. Johan Cruyff's tea pitch had handicapped his side's figure on the field, a player Montero to contain Juventus, while Caminero's place in mid-flattered by that result and will attacking game. Who always wants to win, who Parma, three points behind field will be filled by Roberto have to pull out all the stops at Milan's strikeforce against never gives up." he said.

newly crowned European Foot- a much improved side, much of ner Gianfranco Zola in attack season. baller of the Year, George that is because of Schwarz's ur- for their difficult away clash Sitting on their lead. Atletico Schwarz, in his first season in

Dejan Savicevic is not yet Italian football since moving absence of midfielder Massimo pionship in top spot with two fifth-placed Valencia whose fully fit and he will be replaced from Arsenal, is unconcerned Crippa and defender Fabio Can-by Zvonimir Boban in midfield about playing against his old navaro, both suspended, while Curiously coach F

keeper Angelo Pagotto, who is Fiorentina look to Gabriel Batisto undergo a knee cartilage optation, originally came into 10-goal mark, and Roma to the side at the start of the sea. Abel Balbo. Both sides will be son following an injury to former at full strength.

The charmina language ers this weekend will not affect the form that has given them a have not done much to suggest the form that has given them a have not done much to suggest they can take this year's chamerable in the cantake this year's chamerable in the doldnums, with the side at the start of the sea. Abel Balbo. Both sides will be son following an injury to former at full strength.

The charmina language ers this weekend will not affect the form that has given them a have not done much to suggest they can take this year's chamerable in the doldnums, with the side at the start of the sea. Abel Balbo. Both sides will be side without Spanish first division.

Atletico will be without Spanish international Walter Zen.

The charmina language full, and the top of the they can take this year's chamerable in the doldnums, with the doldnums, with page in sixth. Real desperately 12 points off the sea. The charmina language full and the top of the they can take this year's chamerable in the doldnums, with the side at the start of the sea.

At letico will be without Spanish first division.

At letico will be without Spanish first division.

Currently 12 points off the sea. 13th place. It all points to a villation international Walter Zen. son following an injury to former at full strength.
Italian international Walter Zen-

one point lead over final day of 1995.

October.

Caminero. who picked up a Amazica to add fire-power up vellow card in Wednesday's 3-1

The league leaders, who entwo Swedish midfielders, Jonas pi may drop Fabrizio Ravanelli win at Salamanca, and Narsecond-placed Barcelona ertain Sampdoria tomorrow.

The Roma and Staffan in attach market brings together and Staffan in attach market brings to the top of the staffan in attach market brings to the top of the staffan in attach market brings to the top of the staffan in attach market brings to the top of the staffan in attach market brings to add fire-power up vellow card in Wednesday's 3-1

The league leaders, who entry to the top of the staffan in attach market brings to add fire-power up vellow card in Wednesday's 3-1

The league leaders, who entry to the top of the staffan in attach market brings together and the staffan in attach market brings together attach market brings together and the staffan in t

with Torino.

Parma will be penalised by the the halfway stage in the cham- - face a tough game at home to Torino will also be without a key tic's impressive record - won 14, form after a shaky start to the "For me, it'll be just another player in the suspended Gha- drawn three, lost two - is iden- season.

The champions Juventus, cur-Caminero and Kiko Narvaez for need to win away at Merida if tal weekend in the race to be rently fifth six points behind Mi-the home match against mid-they are to retain the league. crowned the kings of Spain.

Them argues that Fiorenting's Atalanta will look to the ex- who could be out for four weeks in Thursday's last-minute 2-1 never gives up." he said. Milan in third place, recall Bul-"If this year's Fiorentina are garian Hristo Stoichkov to part- substitute in several games this with a 3-0 mid-week win away at

are already assured of reaching Barcelona only on goal average

tical to that he had when he was

of his early rebuilding.

Saturday to prove it to me."

The absence of Narvaez - red and vellow cards respectively

Johan Cruyff's team were high-flying Real Betis.

Espanyol - who trail Brazilian World Cup star Vio-Curiously coach Radomir An- la is finally beginning to find his

Athletic Bilbao take on Real

Nicholas on trail of more Cup goals

Scottish football

Charlie Nicholas - who won a winners' medal with Aberdeen in 1990 - begins yet another Tennent's Scottish Cup cam-

paign today. The 34-year-old former Scottish international, who also played for Celtic and Arsenal, turns out for Second Division Clyde in their home secondround tie against Brechin City, from the Third Division. However, Alex Smith, the manager of the Cumbernauld-based side. is unlikely to repeat the Cup wins he enjoyed when in charge of St Mirren (1987) and Aberdeen (1990).

Another player with Cup final experience involved today is the new Ayr United manager, Gordon Dalziel, who leads the Second Division club at home to Ross County, from the Third. At least two non-League clubs will figure in the third-round draw: Deveronvale entertain their neighbours, Keith, while another Highland League club, Fraserburgh, visit Whitehill Welfare, of the East of Scotland

That I elected instead to lend my vocal support to the terraces of Kenilworth Road showed early and unsettling signs of perversity

north London suburb of Hendon, the options for the rookie football fan were simple -Stamford Bridge (quite Jewish). Highbury (very Jewish). or White Hart Lane (a verita-

ble synagogue on match day). That I elected instead to lend my vocal support to the terraces of Kenilworth Road showed early and unsettling signs of perversity, and perhaps gave a clue to the years of therapy that were to follow.

In short, I wanted to be different and, let's face it, when you're growing up in the ball-juggler who graced our what he calls his Kohlerdome, ghettos north of Golders midfield for a few brief games an all-singing, all-dancing, all-

Green Road, Luton is about as

different as you can get.
If the truth be told, and tell me if this is not perversity it-self in a town where Vauxhall looms larger than God. Luton are probably the most Jewish club of the lot, the Red Sea of Kenilworth Road parting at various times to engulf a Jewish chairman, Jewish manager, and that most exotic of species, a Jewish player - te-spectively David Kohler, David Pleat, and the much travelled and largely forgotten Barry Silkman, journeyman

between spells at nine other clubs, including Crystal Palace and Manchester City.

of Kevin Keegan with, ar-guably, less natural ability than the great man, but an infinitely better perm. Legend has it that, on asking his hairdress-

Silkman was a contemporary

er for highlights. Silkman was shown an action replay of his Kohler's main claim to fame, apart from the wherewithal to win any number of Rodney Bewes lookalike com-

petitions, is his obsession with

FAN'S EYE VIEW No 131 Luton Town PETER MOSS

purpose arena replete with moveable pitch and retractable roof, at a cost that could fund 10 decades of French nuclear testing in the south Pacific.
You would think this was the

regards players seems to be:

"Can be kick with both feet? Yes? Right, sell him, we need the money!" Phil Gray, Paul Telfer, lain Dowie, Mick Har-ford and John Hartson are just some of the Luton alumni currently finding the net in higher echelons. The result? dream of a man at the helm of a wealthy club. You would be wrong. For Kohler's policy as We are left with a team in

which my late grandmother.

aided only by her frame and a few puffs of Ventalin, would not look out of place.

How I ache for days of yore. Not the pre-war nostalgia of Joe Payne, 10 goals in one game against Bristol Rovers, a League record that stands to this very day and may never be bettered in these days of twin centre-backs and goalless draws.

Nor the decade of my birth. when the Bingham-Baynham-Owen team of 1959 took us to the FA Cup final, only to lose to the 10 men of Nottingham Forest, (11 men we can beat, but 10 we can't. Our spare player gets confused by the exNo. What I hanker after is

a deal more recent. The team of 1987/88, the team of nine internationals, fashioned by Pleat, inherited by Ray Harford, and managed once again by the Jewish boy whose man-ic Irish jig on defeating Man-chester City with the last kick of the 1982/83 season to preserve our top-flight status was a sight never to be forgotten and still much beloved by television pundits and video playback fans.

Hang it all, the team that came from 2-1 down with min-

tra space and falls down quite utes left to defeat the might of Arsenal and lift the League Cup (or whatever they called it then) not eight years ago. Glory days, when capacity crowds would grace the Nissen hut that masquerades as our stadium. How different today when the one policeman that patrols outside the ground does so for the sole purpose of throwing people in.

But Luton are my team, handed down by God on Mount Sinai, and they'll be my team until death, or a particularly lucrative takeover bid.



Shula: Most NFL wins

Shula bows out after 33 years at the top American football

MATT TENCH

An era has come to an end in American sport with the announcement by Don Shula that he is retiring as the head coach of the Miami Dolphins, Shula, who was 66 on Thursday, departs with an NFL record 347 wins to his name after 33 years at the top

of his profession. However Shula's inevitable accession into his sport's Hall of disintegrated in mid-campaign

Fame will be suffused with a cer- Shula, for so long apparently im- would, but on a radio show on tain ambiguity. Brilliantly successful in his early years, he has consistently failed in recent times to make the most of a talented roster, and in particular to give his quarterback nonpareil, Dan Marino, the stage his talents deserve. Great things were expected from the Dolphins this year after they spent heavily last spring in an attempt to return to the Su-per Bowl for the first time in a

decade. When a promising start

mune to criticism, came under fierce attack. By the end the Dolphins fans greeted him with the same mixture of veneration and scepticism that characterised Brian Clough's final days at Nottingham Forest.

Miami did make the play-offs, but were badly beaten in Buffalo last weekend, which put the question as to whether Shula would see out the final year of his contract into sharp focus. The Miami brief, with its plum loinitial indications were that he

Thursday evening Shula said he would be leaving. "It was a touch decision, one I haven't had to make in 33 years of coaching," Shula said, Wayne Huizenga, the Dolphins owner who was attending Shula's birthday party, said: "We'll talk tomorrow. It's not appropriate to say anything

right now." There will be no shortage of cation and gifted team, is arguably

it is safe to assume that if Jimmy Johnson wants it no one else need apply. Having guided the Dallas Cowboys to back-to-back Super Bowls until his acrimonious departure nearly two years ago, Johnson's status as the best head coach not calling plays remains

As a Florida resident, and former coach to Miami's college team, Johnson has made little attempt to hide the fact that one of the few NFL jobs he would

phins. All the same, as a wellpaid and apparently contented TV analyst his appointment is not a foregone conclusion.

Shula, meanwhile, was left to reflect on a career which took off in 1963 when, at the age of 33, the Baltimore Colts made him the youngest head coach in league history. He joined the Dolphins in 1970 and two years later his team achieved the unique feat of going through a season unbeaten. The Super Bowl was retained a year

return to would be with the Dol- later, but Shula was never able to emulate this early success. The last of Shula's six Super Bowi appearances came in 1984.

For all the recent controversy, at least one of his current players was sure Shula's absence would soon be felt. "South Florida doesn't know what they're going to miss yet," Bryan Cox, the loquacious linebacker said on his weekly radio show. "Next year at this time they'll be talking about, 'We want Shula

Pavin is

kept in

Faldo's

sights

Nick Faldo began the new PGA campaign with a two-under par

70 to be three shots off the lead

after the first round of the sea-

son's opening event, the Mer-

cedes Championship in

The British former world

No 1 and Australia's defending

champion, Steve Elkington.

were the leading non-Americans

in a field led by the US Open

Pavin, in his first competitive

round since winning the Million

Dollar Challenge in South

Africa last month, brought his

form back across the Atlantic to

card a flawless five-under-par

67. He led by one over Mark

O'Meara, while the Masters

champion Ben Crenshaw was

tied two shots behind and one

ahead of a clutch of five play-

ers including Faldo and Elkington.
"What a great way to start the year," Pavin said. "It's quite a

surprise because I hadn't played

Propping up the field was the

Open champion, John Daly -

who finished a distant last at

the Johnnie Walker World

Championship in Jamaica last

month - tied for last on a four-

The Scots Kenny Walker and

David Thomson shot 75 and 77

respectively to be on 155 and 156

after two rounds of the first

professional tournament in Bur-

ma - the Omega Tour's Myan-

mar PGA Championship in

Rangoon. Thailand's Boonchu

MERCEDES CHAMPIONSHIP (Cartsbad, Calif) Leading first-round scores (US un-less stated): 67 C Pavin. 68 M O'Mesra. 69 D Weibring, 5 Hoch, B Creishaw. 70 B Byant. F Funk, N Faido (EB), K Peny, S Elwington (Aus.). 71 D Weidorf, W Austin, T Trybs, T Lehman, J Gallegher, B Tway, L Janzen, T Roberts. 72 D Love. 73 B Mayfair, G Norman (Aus.). M Calcaecochia, V Singh (Fiji). 74 J Funk. E Dougnerty, P Stewart, P Mickelson, J Morse. 76 H Sustion, J Daly.

Ruangkit led on 140.

in quite a while.

champion, Corey Pavin.

Carlsbad, California.

Johnson pays the price for humbling

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

Warrington's record 80-0 defeat at St Helens has cost the game's longest-serving coach his job. Brian Johnson offered his resignation the morning after the Knowsley Road humiliation

and it was accepted. "I knew even before the match was over what I had to do," said Johnson, Warrington's coach since 1988 and 11 years at the club in all.

"I think the scoreline was an aberration and I believe that Warrington will do well in the Super League. But I don't think the backlash would have left me in any position to do my job. I can understand why the fans would want someone to blame

and there has to be a sacrifice." The Australian's assistant, Clive Griffiths, who is also the Welsh coach, has been appointed until the end of the lowed by laps of honour

season. "Clive is a very good and premature celebrations. coach who has the respect of the players and I'm sure he'll do a very good job," Johnson

Ironically, Griffiths' first game in command tomorrow is back at St Helens, who were yester-day fined £10,000, half of it suspended until the end of the year, for fielding a weakened side

against Wigan on Boxing Day. The question of who Saints will meet in the Regal Trophy final will be settled today, when Leeds have to leap a psychological barrier if they are to beat Wigan when it matters.

Leeds have shown both this season and last that they are capable of the occasional inspired performance against the game's dominant side. There were signs when Leeds won 23-11 at Headingley in November that they had finally got their attitude right. Unlike some previous false dawns, it was not fol-

That was progress, but the way they lost form completely not long afterwards was the proof that old frailties remain. Their coach, Dean Bell, has been much happier with the solid workmanship of their recent displays.

"We have started to turn in the sort of very enthusiastic and determined performance that I require regularly," he said. Garry Schofield is playing his

best rugby for years since returning from a hamstring injury. "It is nice to be appreciated for who you are and what you can do. I didn't always feel that that was the case in the last few years," Schofield said.

With Kevin Iro still injured and Carl Hall cup-tied, Francis Cummins comes in at centre. Tony Kemp is still ruled out, so George Mann continues at stand-off. Wigan have Neil Cowie suspended but Kevin



Ebdon finds source of motivation

ುನಕ 1<mark>816ನಕ್ಕ</mark>

Peter Ebdon broke through the £100,000 prize-money barrier for the season yesterday and then complained about a lack of titles. The ambitious Londoner reached his fifth tournament

semi-final since September by defeating Willie Thorne 5-2 in the Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge at the International Convention Centre in Birmingham.

Ebdon, whose only triumph so far during the 1995-96 camta Grand Prix, said: "I'm not self, but still had far too much complaining about being con- ammunition for the Leicester sistent, but it's about time I veteran. After losing the first started tucking a few wins under my belt. You have to be realistic and say that Stephen a 131 clearance - the highest Hendry and John Higgins have pulled away from the rest of us. That's good for me in one respect because trying to catch them is a big motivation."

Ebdon, who now meets Higgins or Jimmy White over the best of 11 frames for a place in tomorrow's final, is already guaranteed to receive a cheque for £12,500 which will carry his total prize-money for the season to £106,300.

"Money is nice, of course, but I'm in this game for titles," said Ebdon, runner-up in both the Regal Scottish Masters and the UK Championship over the last four months.

He missed a number of elementary pots against Thorne frame, Ebdon took control at 4-1 with runs of 48, 58, 59 and break of the event so far.

Thorne stayed alive by winning frame six, but any thoughts of a sustained fightback were dispelled when Ebdon stole tish Masters.

the next on the black with a colour clearance after Thorne had overcut the vellow.

Ronnie O'Sullivan accompanied Ebdon into the last four when he pulled away from Darren Morgan to beat the Welsh left-hander 5-2.

In the early stages O'Sullivan found Morgan a difficult op-ponent to shake off and was held to 2-2 before he rattled through the next three frames in just 32 minutes with breaks of 68, 56 and 38.

O'Sullivan, who was playing paign came at November's Mal- and was not his usual ruthless on behalf of the National Deaf Children's Society, now meets either Ken Doherty or John Par-

"I'm starting to feel a lot more confident after a terrible start to the season," said O'Sullivan, who will be making an appearance in the semi-finals of a tournament for the first time since September's Regal Scot-

Kafelnikov crushes Rusedski

Yevgeny Kafelnikov, of Russia. cruised to a 6-3, 6-3 win over Britain's Greg Rusedski vesterday to advance to the semi-finals of the Australian Hardcourt Championships in Adelaide.

Kafelnikov, who is aiming to win the event for the second time in three years, was particularly effective with his return of serve, especially on Rusedski's second serve.

*I have a lot of confidence going into the semi-finals, espe-cially after winning in 1994," cially after winning in 1994," retired with a shoulder injury Kafelnikov said. "I knew that it after losing the first set of their would be tough against Greg, so

I tried to be more focused and keep every ball in the court." Kafelníkov now plays the unseeded Javier Frana, of Argentina, who beat Renzo Furlan, of Italy, 7-6, 6-3.

Byron Black, of Zimbabwe, who is seeking the first singles title of his career, earlier surprised the second-seed Daniel Vacek from the Czech Republic. Black, previously regarded as a doubles specialist, tri-umphed 7-6, 6-7, 6-4. He now will face Martin Damm, of the Czech Republic, who advanced when Sweden's Henrik Holm

quarter-final 6-3.

Holm complained of losing power in his right arm from a long-term shoulder injury. He said he plans to fly to Melbourne and rest in a bid to be

fit for the Australian Open. Black said he is confident. "I have played Damm and I've had a win over him, so it is looking pretty good and I'm feeling pretty good going into the

Marc Rosset overpowered Martin Sinner in straight sets to lead Switzerland into the final of the Hopman Cup team Championship in Perth. Rosset, the Olympic champion, hit 13 aces as he beat Sinner 6-2, 6-4 and went on to complete a champions, Germany, in their Group B round-robin match. It was Switzerland's third

consecutive win and they will face the top-seeded Croatian team of Goran Ivanisevic and Iva Majoli in today's final. Martina Hingis defeated Anke Huber 2-6, 6-2, 6-1 in the

opening women's singles as Huber suffered only her second defeat in 10 Hopman Cup sin-gles matches. "Anke played very fast at the start, but I served pretty well in the second and thirds sets," Hingis, 15, said. Huber's serve was her other

weakness. Hingis broke it nine times in the 78-minute contest.

Ertl stays in command

TODAY'S NUMBER

150,000

he pounds sterling that the Italian league leaders Milan spent having their city-owned San Siro pitch returfed in time for the first game after the Christmas break against Sampdoria tomorrow. The problem pitch has been resurfaced 10 times in the past five

Major lauds lottery for financial support of sport

Sports Politics

John Major believes the national lottery will help raise sporting standards in Britain. The day after England lost a cricket Test series to South Africa - and the day before an

at critics of the lottery and pinpointed sport as one of the main benefactors.

Asked on BBC1's Breakfast News yesterday about the difficulties that the lottery is going through, Major said: "I hear a lot

against Australia. "As Mu-

two different umpires, the tour-

ing management in consultation

with the Sri Lanka Cricket Board will decide on an appro-

priate course of action," Duleep

Mendis, the team manager, said

of the 14,000-strong crowd each

time he called Muralitharan.

rity guards, were jeered off the

ground at the end of the match.

tain, Richie Richardson, de-

fended Muralitharan. "We had

the match almost won so we

were relaxed, I just felt really

sorry for him."

The West Indies cricket cap-

Emerson was booed by some

the clubs that have got a new

cricket net or a new rugby pitch." Major stressed that the Government would not be able to provide sport with the same level of financial support: "If I was

Eagles pose

a towering

threat to Irish

Ireland continue their process

of rehabilitation under their

coach, Murray Kidd, when they

take on the American Eagles in

from a surprise win over Cana-

da - their first victory on Ca-

nadian soil - go into the match

with a degree of confidence.

They stretched Ireland in their

last meeting at Lansdowne

Road, before the home side won

26-15. Today they introduce

two giant second-row forwards

in a quest to put pressure on the

Irish. Joe Risore and Luke

Gross, both measuring oft 9in, will pose a huge threat.

After a comprehensive victory

The United States, fresh

Rugby Union

Atlanta today.

what expenditure programmes would that come out of?"

Major still wants the establishment of a national academy of sport and rejects the British Olympic Association's suggestion for regional centres instead. suddenly to suggest that the Ex-

estimated £33m jackpot is on of- about these difficulties, I don't chequer should provide anoth- Asked whether legislation was fer-the Prime Minister hit back hear the talk of difficulties from er £300m a year for sport, from needed to protect sporting events still with terrestrial TV channels from being taken over by satellite stations, Major said: "It is an interesting debate and it's one under consideration, but no conclusions have been reached."

Martina Ertl took over the leadership of the women's over-all World Cup standings when

she maintained her perfect gi-ant slalom record in Maribor, Slovenia, yesterday. The Ger-man's third successive victory of

No Chinese city will bid for the 2004 Olympics even though Peking fell just two votes short of winning its bid for the

SHIPOREST

INVERPOOL WICTORIA CHARITY CHALLENGE
(Birningham) First round: J White (Eng bt N
Bond (Eng 5-1, Quarter-finals: P Ebdon (Eng)
bt W Thoma (Eng) 5-2; R O'Sullvan (Eng) bt D
Morgan (Ma) 5-2.

the season spoiled Deborah Compagnoni's comeback, with the Italian Olympic champion unable to hold on to her firstleg advantage in her first race since last March.

Ertl has capitalised on Compagnoni's absence after knee surgery to become a force in the

Gabnela Sabatini, of Argentina, beat Lindsay Devenport, of the United States, 7-5, 6-4, in an exhibition match in

Wellington, New Zealand, yesterday. The game was used as preparation for the Australian Open which begins on 15 Jan-

(Zim) bt D Vacel, (Cz Rep) 7-5 6-7 6-4; M Damm (Cz Rep) bt H Holm (Swe) 6-3 net; Y Kateinkov (Kus) bt G Rusedsis (GB) 6-3 6-3; Frans (Arg) bt R Furton (b) 7-6 6-3. Doubles, Semi-finals: J Bjorferne (Swe) and T Ho (US) bt S Laceau (Can) and A O'Bnen (US) 7-5 4-6 6-3. and A Obsen (US) 7-3-4-0-0-3. ABRIANY CLASSIC: WINNERN'S TOURNAMENT (Aucidand, NZ) Singles, Semi-finalis: S Cacic (US) Ix F. Laber (Virg) 6-3-6-4: B Paulus; Aut Us (Fang (Chimal 6-3-6-4, Doubles, Semi-finalis: E Callers; (Ed) and J. Hazard-Decugs; (F) Ix Rola Hiralo (Japan) and P Hy-Boules (Can) 6-1-6-3.

uary III MEIDOUTHE. TOURNAMENT (Dohe)
QATAR OPEN HIEN'S TOURNAMENT (Dohe)
Quarter-finels: Younes II-Ayraou (Mor) bt G
Raoux (P) 6-2 6-3; P Norda (Cz Repl bt M Larson (Swe) 6-4 7-5; D Prinosi (Gar) bt N Persira
(Van) 6-7 6-2 6-1; T Muster (Aut) bt A Voinea
(Rom) 6-2 6-2.

(Rom) 6-2 6-2. I HADDED-TEAMES TOURNAMENT (Parth, Asso) Group B: Switzerfand v Gerramy. Singles (Swiss names first): M Hings ot A Huber 2-6 6-6-1; N Reset ft M Sarrer 6-2 6-4. Netherlands v Australia. Singles (Neth resens tirst): B Schulz-AbtCarthy br N Bradthe 5-7 7-5 6-0; R Kraycok lost to M Philippousses 6-7 2-1 strajicak restred lighted). Doubles: Switzerfand v Germany. Rosset and Hings of Sarrer and Huber 6-1 6-3. Switzerfand tr Germany 3-0; Netherlands v Australia: Krajeck and Schulz-McCarthy conceded a walkover to Philippousse and Bradde. Australia bit Netherlands 2-1.

MUSTRALIAN HARDCOURT CHAMPIONSHIP (Adebide, Aus) Singles, Quarter-finalis: B Blac

Snow reports						
Resort Conditions (Lower)	Condition (Upper)	s Area open	Lest snow	Westhe	r Forecast	
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A protest of Mental No Protestant Street, CC SAT Halphore, PARE 254, 4275

Misery for Muralitharan The bowler was also called last month during the second Test

The off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was no-balled for rainharan has been no-balled by throwing as the West Indies cruised to 104 for 3 in reply to Sri Lanka's 102 with almost 24 overs to spare to win by seven wickets in their World Series match in Brisbane yesterday.

Muralitharan was introduced in the 19th over of the first limited overs international to be played under lights at the . Both umpires, flanked by secuground. His fourth ball was noballed by Emerson, who repeated his call twice more during the over. The 23-year-old bowler appeared in despair after Emerson called him four more times, twice in each of his subsequent overs. Television replays suggested Muralitharan bowled legspinners on several occasions. when he was no-balled.

WORLD SERIES (Bristiana): Sn Lanka 102 (HP Tillekaratine 37no; CEL Ambrose 3-20); West Indias 104 for 3. West Indias win by

Britain's young sailors won the senior BT/YJA Yachtsman of helping Britain to walk away with the Year award in London last the trophy as top nation. There was also a special night, writes Stuart Alexander.

At the World Youth Championships this year, the Royal Yachting Association youth team's Nick Rogers and Pom The RYA announced the for-Green took gold in the boys doumation of Squad 2000 to deble-handed twins Sally and velop 30 to 40 potential Jessie Cuthbert gold for the girls medallists at the Sydney Games. double-handed, and Ben Ainslie

Youngsters win top award gold in the boys' Laser. Sarah Webb, Ben Proffitt and Helen Cartwright also performed well,

> award for the youth squad coach, Jim Saltonstall, who has also been made a coach to this year's Olympic team at Savannah.

over Fiji in their last match, Ireland will be in confident mood themselves, though. The intro-duction of the New Zealander Kidd as coach and the former All Black John Mitchell as assistant has generated an enthusiasm unrivalled in recent years

in the Irish camp. Three changes have been made from the team which beat Fiji. In come the New Zealand-born centre Kurt Mc-Ouilkin, the stand-off Eric Elwood and Victor Costello, at blind-side flanker.

Raskethall INSESSING FLORENT 101: Chicago 11.7 Charlotte 93; Seattle 84 Mannu 81; New York 105 New Jersey 93; Washington 112 Dates 100; Minnesota 98 Pricenta 93; Sacramento 126 Denver 96.

SPORTING DIGEST

Boxing

George Foreman says he is discussing a possible fight with Mile Tyson this year, a bout between former heavyweight champions. Foreman, who turns 47 on champions. Foremen, who turns 47 on Wednesday, was speaking in Houston, where he is training for his next fight-with Michael Moorer in New York on 29 February. He said: "Realistically, there have been some real serious conver-sations and this fight (with Tyson) is more then a probability if I can get pest Michael Moorer."

Cricket

Football

A century from Derbyshire's Kim Bar-nett and a half-century by Paul Terry helped England to a convincing 65-run victory over Parkstam in the opening match of the World Masters Cricket Series in Sharjah yesterday. The £80,000 competition features former stars from England, Pakistan, West Indies and India, many of whom have returned to the game for the event.

gainer for the event.
TOUR MATCH (Herne, second day of three):
England U-19 400 for 7 JA Monte 126no. U-Azaat 60 and 132 for 3; Zimbobee School: 75.
SHEFFIELD SHELD (first day of four) Perth:
South Australia 235 (D Lehmann 62, J Brayeliew 60); Western Australia 49 for 0.

Darts EMBASSY WORLD PROFESSIONAL CHAMPL ONSHIP (Laboride Country Club, Printer) Quar-ONS-RBP (Leiseside Country Club, Frienley) Quar-ter-finals (best of seven sets): R Burnett (Wel) tx R Baster (Eng) 4-2.

Andy Gray, the 31-year-old former England, Aston Villa, Tottenham and Chystal Palace midfielder, has joined Falkirk for the rest of the season after a spell with the Spanish club, Real Mallorca. Eddie Firmani, the 62-year-old former Chariton Athletic manager, has been named head coach of the New York/New Jersey Metrosters, members of the new United States Major Soccer League. Raith Rovers are to lose their winger. Tony Rougier, for five games this month,

because he is on international duty for Trinidad and Tobago in the Concacal Gold Cup in the United States.

Cup in the United States.

Guines will replace Nigeria in the Aincan Nations' Cup this month if Nigeria does not reverse their decision to withdraw from the 16-nation tournament in South Ainca. The decidine for a response has been extended by 24 hours.

TRANSFERS: Albert Craig Indificient Partick Thistie to Fallori, Nicing Indificient Partick Thistie.

LOAN TRANSFERS: Craig Amestrong (defended Nationglam Forest to Breat Revers Tong Seally forward; Crystal Palace to Carolif City, Sordal-Amestrong (midfielder) Sunderland to Northempton Town.

SPANISH LEAGUE (Thersday): Bercalon 2 Skifing
Wosen's World CLP ALPINE Clant Statom
(Bestlor, Slovenin) Leading positions: 1 M Eri
(Ged 2min 18.23ee; (Inst leg 1-10.48/second leg
1-07.75); 2 D Commagnow (II) 2-18.55
(1-10.04/108.51); 3 K Sedinger (Ser) 2-18.90
(1-10.54/ 1-10.84/510-39); 5 A Worder (Aut)
2-19.35 (1-10.05/108.55); 6 E Henesson (Swel
2-19.87 (1-11.22/108.65); Lapeding World Cup
glett statom standings, (after three recess): 1
M Eri (Bed 3000ms; 2 S Penzenne (II 154; 3 A
Wachter (Aut) 150; 4 K Rosen (Swel 124; 5 A
Machter (Aut) 150; 5 M Suhaddin Silven) 109.

Golf OMEGA TOUR MYANMAR PGA CHAMP-IONSHIP (Resignon, Burma) Leading second -round scarse: 140 Bonochu Rasriget (Inc) 58 72, 144 Schor Jim 17, 13, 147 C Hamps (SA) 75 72, 148 Chor Jim legul (S Korl 72 76; Jeev Milles Singh Indoor 17 4 74; Yang Yeng-ram (S Korl 75 73; Myart Thaung (Bur) 78 70, 148 G Hanrahan (US) 73 76; A Meeks (US) 74 75, 150 T Matoney (Jus) 76 76, 1456 G Norquist (US) 81, 74; K Weiser (Scol 80 75, 156 D Mijowe (Can) 79 77; D Thomaton (Sco) 79 77. MEN'S INTERMATIONAL (Cagliari): Italy O

NRIL: Mortesal 2 MY Islanders 2, St. Cours 3 Chica-go 1, Philadelphia 2 Colorado 2. BRITISH LENGUE FIRST DIVISION: Swindon Wild-cats 11 Medway Beans 5.

Motor racing David Coulthard yesterday ruled hirnself out of joining Jacke Stewart's £400mil-

tion but for Formula One success. Shawar's return to the grand prix scene was confirmed when a five-year exclu-sive engines deal with Ford was officially announced in Detroit on Thursday. John Binecliffe faces over a month's walt before he drives an Audi A4 Quattro for the first time. The 29 year old Hamo-gate driver, who signed for the newly formed Audi Sport UK team in Birm-ingham on Thursday, will not test the four-wheel drive car until the end of Febru-



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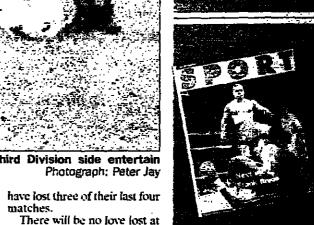
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ON MONDAY: Coverage of all the weekend's key sporting events in The Independent's Sport section

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Saracens prepare to unveil Lynagh



Rugby Union STEVE BALE

Saracens will complete a transfer coup on Monday when they are expected to unveil the Australian stand-off Michael Lynagh, the international record points-scorer, as English rugby's most significant signing so far a fashionable watering-hole in

capped Frenchman, who wishes to spend a year in England. The Ireland flanker Eddie Halvey has also signed. Yesterday Saracens called a press conference for Monday at

London's West End with

lionaire businessman Nigel Wray, have been in conversation was not disclosed. Lynagh, who with Philippe Sella, the mostis married to an Italian, has been under contract to Benetton Treviso, who gave a good account of themselves in a European Cup match against Toulouse last month.

Though at 32 he is in the autumn of his career and retired from international rugby after

be sorry", though the nature of the impending announcement World Cup, Lynagh – like the at least £3,000 for every the impending announcement 33-year-old Sella – would have international appearance duran immense amount to offer Saraceus not simply as a player but in coaching and

> One thing he should rectify is Sarries' chronic place-kicking, his record for the Wallabies of 911 points in 72 Tests from 1984-95 being 266 more than anyone else has achieved.

international appearance during the 1995-96 season. The 21member squad will receive a match fee of around £1,000 and a further £2,000 will be paid to those who actually play. Players will also get a £1,000 bonus for a win in the Five Nations' Championship. The 30 mem-

tional squad will also receive a

retainer of £7.500.

professionalisation will have its most remarkable expression with the likely appearance of the Rugby League champions. Wigan, in the Middlesex Sevens in May. In another striking development, the Rughy Football Union has enquired whether it could enter an Engbers of the extended interna-

larid team. The new Lomu?, page 24

The breakdown in old barri-

ers occasioned by rughy union's

FA CUP THIRD ROUND: Premiership élite facing a weekend of fear and choking. Phil Shaw reports

Humble brethren poised to pounce

will dominate conversation this weekend. In the version better known as the FA Cup, those who roll over supposedly superior

opposition tend to view the jackpot in emotional rather than financial terms.

The delirious few who combine both aspects traditionally Premiership have bowed to humbler brethren over the past two decades. Most of the élite have suffered such a humiliation

Manchester United at Bournemouth and Arsenal at Wrexham being classic examples and '92 and only 1981 failing to produce an upset.

So the chances, statistically speaking, are that as many as three Premiership casualties will Chelsea-Newcastle tie in being coming Newcastle, of the for-left to the time-honoured purmer First Division, in 1972. ague." The numbered balls romance: 11 top-flight teams visit lower-division territory, among them the current bottom four.

The Premiership giants with most to fear, however, may be Leeds, whose FA Cup record over those 20 years has been largely wretched: two semi-finals but only one other run beyond the last 32. Tomorrow they visit Derby, where they won in a friendly and a Coca-Cola Cup tie earlier this season, before the First Division leaders started their present surge of nine wins in 10 games.

In similar circumstances 12 months ago it took an 87thminute equaliser to save Leeds' skin - and possibly Howard Wilkinson's job - at Walsall. Now his tenure could again come under threat for, if Derby's run continues. Leeds' entire season will be resting on the out-come of the Coca-Cola semi-final at home to Reading on Wednesday. And by then, Tony Yeboah will be with the Ghanaian squad in South Africa.

In terms of a disparity in league places. Aston Villa have far more to lose than Leeds, al-

Two national lotteries fleet, 126 rungs below them, surely relinquished what slender chance they had of winning when they agreed to switch to Villa Park. The Beazer Homes League stragglers, whose consolation will be a profit of around £100,000, at least seem intent on going out in style. Chris Weller, who works in a

prison when he is not managing the part-timers, promises alldo it in the third round, where out attack. His opposite 65 members of what is now the number. Brian Little, often recalls that the most stressful day of his managerial career came at Welling, Gravesend's Kentish neighbours, when he was on the brink of leading Darlington out of the Vauxhall Conference. Little admitted yesterday: "As with six victims in both 1979—it gets closer you think: 'Crikey, what if we lose'?'

The answer is that it would rank among the great Cup shocks of all time, alongside such feats as Hereford, then of join the losers of tomorrow's the Southern League, oversuit of "concentrating on the The only other non-League certainly did their bit to enhance have a better chance at Swindon. "If they don't beat us," the Conference club's manager. Geoff Chapple, said in a piece of blatant Cup kidology, "then something's badly wrong.

While the prospects of today's Hereford toppling Tottenham look slim, the Third Division's 15th-placed team are at least on their own paddy-field of dreams. In Nicky Cross and Steve White they also have a strike force with a combined age of 72 - a lat-



Tottenham Hotspur at Edgar Street in the third round of the FA Cup Photograph: Peter Jay

Ricky George, perhaps - who have sufficient guile to keep that young upstart Gary Mabbutt on

his 34-year-old toes. One of the Premiership sides most at risk, Coventry, take a bizarre record to Plymouth. having lifted the Cup in 1987 yet lost to the likes of Sutton. Northampton and Cambridge United in only twice advancing beyond the fourth round in the

Third top in the First meet third bottom in the Premier as Leicester receive Manchester City in a re-run of the 1969 final: Queen's Park Rangers head for Tranmere aware that their hosts are stronger than Stockport, who put them out at this stage two years ago; and Bolton, with Ian Porterfield, Sunderland's Wembley hero in 1973, taking his first match as coach, are on a hid-

Sunderland, now reviving splendidly under Peter Reid. may be catching last year's beaten finalists. Manchester United, at a good time. Everton, the holders, should come through at home to Stockport. while across Stanley Park the main point of interest may be whether Liverpool give Ian Rush MBE the opportunity to score the goal against

past Denis Law's competition record of 41.

Blackburn's barren away sequence must give Ipswich, 5-I winners in their last home fixture, hope at Portman Road. Nor will Sheffield United travel to Arsenal in quite the trepidation they might have felt when the draw was made. Since then, Howard Kendall has revamped the Bramall Lane line-up and the Gunners

everyone a lift." Mick Mc-Carthy, the Millwall manager.

"My goal is to win promo-tion, and the signing of two

world-class players can only

help to achieve that goal." The

the visit of Port Vale a week to-

pair will both be available for

time in a competitive game. Glenn Roeder, who now manages Watford but has played with both, said: "You only have to speak to them to know who's the centre-half and who's the centre-forward. David's a sensible, serious lad whereas Dean's a bouncy and flambovant character." Come tonight, unless it is a draw at Vicarage Road, you will only have to look at them to know

Southampton, where Ports-

mouth drop in on the neigh-

bours, or at Birmingham, to

whom Wolves make an even

shorter journey, though the

most intriguing "derby" is that between the Holdsworth twins.

David, of Watford, marks Dean,

of Wimbledon, for the first

who has won. Kendall's Wembley dream, Cup team news, page 26

terday Ronnie Radford and other 19 of the past 20 seasons. ing to nothing at Bradford City. Rochdale that would take him Millwall pull off coup by signing a pair of Russians

ROB DORSETT

Millwall yesterday pulled off one of the transfer coups of the season, when they secured the services of two of the Russians who put paid to Blackburn Rovers' hopes in the Champions' League. The striker Serguei Yuran and defender-cum-midfielder Vassili Kulkov have joined on loan for the remainder of the season, with the though Gravesend & North- First Division club retaining

an option to purchase the duo ing tormented the Arsenal de- Porto last season. Negotiations thereafter.

The internationals, who have played in every Spartak Moscow game this season, have mirrored each others' career paths exactly, through five years and four European clubs. An indicator of their ability is that, during their time there, every club they have played for has won a national championship.

Yuran, 26, scored the winning goal against Blackburn in this vear's Champions League, hav-

fence when he played for Benefica in the European Cup four years ago. He has a fiancée living in London, while the 29year-old Kulkov's wife and daughter are expected to arrive here shortly. "My fiancée living here was a factor." Yuran said, "but I come here to show good football and to help Millwall win promotion.'

The pair were recommended to Millwall by Bobby Robson, for whom they played at

have lasted three weeks, and it is an indication of the relative financial strengths of the two countries that the pair could be persuaded to leave the Russian champions to play in England

outside the Premiership.
Millwall, who have slipped to 11th having led the division earlier in the season, will hope the signings prove a turning point for their season. "Their presence in the squad is bound to give supporters, players and

Peter Mead, the club's chairman, admitted that the Bosman verdict made the signings much easier. Millwall now have five foreigners on their pay-roll.

to rebuild

Cricket

England's World Cup hopefuls are getting an early oppor-tunity to rebuild team morale

against Western Province.

The spinner Richard Illing-worth who missed the Test through injury, is still not expected to be fit today but the batsman Mark Ramprakush and the fast howler Darren Gough are two other players from the original tour squad

hopes. Atherton's verdict, page 23

No.2876. Saturday 6 January

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

The first five correct solutions to this week's puzzle opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the excellent Chambers Biograp day receive hardbacked copies of the excellent Chambers Biographical Dictionary, worth £35. Answers and winners' names will be published next Saturday. Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, P. O. Box 4018, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London £14 5BL. Please use the box number and postcode. Last week's winners were: Mrs G Seagrave, Bristol: Mrs A Donovan, West Sussex: Mr R Scaife, North Humberside; G Glover, London £C2Y; Bob Maslin, Midlothian.

ACROSS

One attending a meeting ...(8) 5 ... to agree to enter office (6)
10 Frank's in front on the home stretch (15) 11 Bird (duck) in list (7) 12 Ranting? Could be subtler (7)

13 Union contract? Break one in anger (8)
15 Best of people, literally (5)
18 Carry first of medals, symbol evoking re-

spect (5) 20 Establish film sequence on part of ship

23 Bit of a nut, they say, this officer (7) 25 Epicure's cut fleshy fruit (paid for) (7) 26 An elder goes in P.O – could be this one

(3,3,9)
27 Dull day, back end of July (6)
28 Ship reportedly helps to deliver army units (8)

SANCTUFY HOWDAH
C A H A V I E
OUTREACH CENSOR
T I I I I E R T I
COVERALL ESPRIT
H E S I A E A A
STAGGERING
E II I G R T E
LOGANBERRY
UND S E P S S
EROTIC ESSAVIST
E M A S S E A
ENIGMA A I R STRIP
I N A O O I

Friday's solution

DOWN

Repair to Blackpool?(6) Bird caught by storm circling wild moor

Grand sedan in show (7) One subtracted from one or the other to give this number (5) Revel's beginning to cause a stir (7) Faithful? Divorcee's given decree (5)

Rod needs changes to be sanctioned (8) Bad fracture? It could put one out! (3-5) 14 Stake with bound animal (8)16 Fashion model with line that's unpromis-

ing (3-6)
17 Cuts up girl student, getting plastered (8)
19 Supervisor, a German, in new organisation 21 Accommodation? A sprinkling round Uni-

versity (7)
22 Birds of prey, it's said, beginning to swoop 24 Guided, say, over ridge (5) 25 Greek possessed by a person's lost soul (5)

Last Saturday's solution

Last Saturday's solution

ALLIOCATE AMOEBA
WILL E UB
ADMONISH ASCEND
II BAS DC TI
THEORIES MASTIC
SRDLOMIA
CLAPPEDOUT
ATFAAASNE
DOUBLETALK
DNE E BOUBLETALK
DETANLETE
England look their morale

after South Africa won the Test series 1-0 with a 10-wicket vic-tory in the final Test which finished a day early this week. Virtually a new-look England will take the field in Cape Town today for a 50-over contest

Neil Fairbrother. Dermot Reeve. Neil Smith, Phil DeFreitas and Craig White arrived this week to take over from Jason Gallian, Mark flott, John Crawley, Devon Malcolm and Angus Fraser for the one-day series against South Africa which begins in Cape Town on Tuesday.

who still harbour World Cup

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